Iran: Saudis do not believe terrorism charges

NICOSIA (R) — Iran quoted Saudi Arabia's defence minister Sunday as saying his country did not believe charges that the Islamic republic posed a threat to its neighbours. The Iranian news agency IRNA quoted Prince Sultan Ben Abdul Aziz as telling Iran's Ambassador in Riyadh Mohammad Ali Hadi Najafabadi "that his country believed in the fact that Iran did not pose any threat to either the region or Saudi Arabia." IRNA said Prince Sultan, a brother of King Fahd and third in line to the Saudi throne, made his remarks at a meeting with the ambassador in Riyadh; Saturday. IRNA said the prince had also described charges of Iranian involvement in terrorism as "unformed tabelegations and propagation." Saturday. IRNA said the prince had also described charges of Hallian involvement in terrorism as "unfounded fabrications and propagnida ploy." The United States, which is Sandi Arabia's principal ally, on Saturday denounced Iran as the "most dangerous sponsor of state terrorism," in 1992, according to a report issued in Washington by the State Department. IRNA said Prince Sultan underlined "the deep; Riyadh-Tehran historic and cultural relations" and described Iran as "a fraternal friendly assurday." The January and that respectations for fraternal, friendly country." The Iranian agency said that preparations for this year's Haj to Mecca, which takes place later this month, were discussed at the meeting.



Afghan leaders to talk until settlement

JALALABAD (R) — Rival Afghan guerrilla leaders holding peace talks in an old palace in this eastern city have agreed to continue the negotiations until they reach a settlement, an Afghan politician said Sunday. "They have jointly agreed to be in Jalalabad until they reach agreement," Nangarhar Province Governor Haji Abdul Qadeer told reporters. "There are deep problems and disunity among the Mujahedeen and removing all these problems needs some time. It is not easy to remove them during two or three days," he said. The Mujahedeen leaders began a new round of peace talks amid tight security on Saturday in the Jahalahad palace. Access to the palace was restricted to Mujahedeen leaders only. Mujahedeen sources said Sunday the talks, centred on the formation of a cabinet and prospects for a permanent coarefire, had made little process. All of the fractions guerrilla parties signed a prace agreement on March 7 in Islamabad, but sporadic lighting had continued even after that. A spokesman for hardline Prime Minuter-designate Gulbuddan Hekmattur said Mujahedeen leaders held individual talks during the day and were to resume group negotiations Sunday night.

Kidnapped diplomats appeal for help, page 2

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Jordanians show their pride in their King

By Sa'eda Kilani Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Proud of their Hashemite Monarch, Jordanians Sunday celebrated the 40th anniversary of His Majesty King Hussein's assumption of his constitutional powers with a massive display of their loyalty to and admiration of their King.

Jordanians celebrated the occa-

sion by singing and dancing in the streets to the rythm of national songs, slaughtering sheep, and staging a 90-minute national show outside Amman participated by the security forces, school students as well as various public and private sector institutions.

As the King, Her Majesty Queen Noor, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and members of the Royal Family watched from the podium, units of the Armed Forces and police department, more than 6,000 schoolchildren and various folklore groups from all parts of the King-dom unfolded a national show reflecting the progress of Jordan.

The ceremonies, attended by government leaders and officials, Parliament members, tribal leaders, political activists and businessmen, were launched with an emotional speech by a 104-old Jordanian who travelled with the late King Abdullah Ben Al Hussein, the founder of the Kingdom, on his way to Amman from the Hijaz in 1921.

"Seventy-two years ago, I came with King Abdullah to Amman where tribal leaders and sheikhs from all governorates and

loyalty and allegiance to the (Hashemite) throne," Sheikh Juweiber Al Otaibi recalled. Speaking with obvious difficul-ty, Sheikh Oraibi paid tribute to

the progress Jordan has achieved under the Hashemite leadership. Earlier, the master of cere-monies, Major-General Tahsin Shurdom, praised the strenuous efforts exerted by the King to achieve stability and prosperity in

"From various origins and from different sects, in mosques and in churches, all pray for you King Hussein," he said. "In spite of the difficulties and scarcity of resources, you have continued to work to achieve the best for the nation with wisdom and courage," Maj.-Gen. Shurdom said.

parade ground near Marka, was beld against the backdrop of students changing flashings of national slogans and pictures of the Hashemite Kings, reflecting the Jordanians' belief and conviction in the continuity of the

Hashemite Monarchy.

While one group of students displayed the slogan "forever Hashemite," another group formed the pictures of King Abdullah, King Talai, King Hussein and Crown Prince Hassan, the designated successor to the

King Hussein was proclaimed monarch on August 11, 1952, when he was 17 years old after his grandfather was assassinated. But he assumed his constitutional

The immense popularity of King Hussein, who led Jordan through some of the most difficult times in history, surged to new bounds especially after he laun-ched the democratisation of Jordan in 1989 and stood firm on his

Gulf crisis in 1991. Nearly one million people thronged the streets of Amman in an unprecedented show of affection for the King when he returned home in September last year after undergoing successful surgery in the United States.

nationalist positions during the

Although nowhere near in number of that occasion, Sunday's celebrations, titled "With Hussein on the Path of Democracy, Liberty and Development," were equally impressive in terms of the diversity of the show at

Bedouin warriors in their traditional robes riding horses and camels staged a show commemorating the Great Arab Revolt that was led by the Hashemites in

Representing the various institutions, companies and ministries in Jordan, trucks and treetors transformed into fancy-moving colourful vehicles staged a march past, displaying the various achievements of the private and public sectors realised during the 40-year reign of King Hus-

Armed Forces units simulated combat, while Air Force planes dropped parachutists and the Royal Falcons, Jordan's Acroba-

(Continued on page 5)

International media see King Hussein as

Great survivor against all odds... and firm believer in democracy

By Ed Blanche The Associated Press

- King Hussein, the Arab World's longest-serving ruler, marked his 40th year on the Hashemite throne Sunday, a unique survivor of Middle East tem-

The 57-year-old monarch's longevity in the cutthroat politics of the region is remarkable. When he was crowned May 2, 1953, the boy-king of an impover-ished desert state, few believed he would last long in the Middle, Eastern cauldron.

He has survived countless assassination attempts, a Palesti-nian attempt to oust him, Arab-Israeli wars and political con-

When King Hussein returned last September from the United States after surgery for cancer, more than one million people, a quarter of the population, packed Amman's streets in an ecstatic

The King's illness has raised nagging doubts about his health and with it the future of the Hashemite dynasty and Jordan's hard-won stability.

King Hussein himself has raised intimations of his own mortality. But in an AP interview on Thursday, he appeared in good health, if slightly weary after a hectic day of meetings. He still smokes.

Sitting in an ornate, chandeliered audience room in Basman Palace, its sandstone walls blinding white in the spring sunshine, the King looked back on his turbulent reign with his usual disconcerting habit of calling his interviewers "Sir."

"There have been many happy memories, and many sad and terrible, tragic ones," he said. Among them the death of Queen Alia, third of his four wives, in a helicopter crash in 1977 and his decision to join Egypt in a disastrous military alliance only days before the 1967 Arab-Israeli war broke out.

That cost him the West Bank and East Jerusalem, the city that is a potent religious symbol for his monarchy and for his dynasty that traces its line back to Fatima.

(Continued on page 5)

By Jane Arraf

AMMAN — King Hussein, who celebrated his 40th anniversary on the throne Sunday, has faced war and forged a nation. Perhaps his biggest challenge though will be teaching his people to live without him.

In a vulnerable kingdom buffeted by the Arab-Israeli conflict and surrounded by powerful neighbours, the monarch has become convinced that democracy is the only way to ensure stability and the rule of his Hashemite

To do that, he must convince a largely adoring population to invest in building political foundations that will outlast him.

"The duties I have are such to prepare the ground for a more stable, progressive Jordan in the future and to make whatever decisions I deem right at that time and see how it goes," the King told Reuters in an interview this

week when asked if he would

possibly step down. A prince jolted out of boyhood to reluctantly become king, he has enjoyed the longest reign of any leader in the turbulent Mid-

Now at 57, some say the King feels a greater urgency to lay foundations for a future without him after undergoing cancer surgery last year.

King still suffers from fatigue.

Doctors found no trace of the cancer in his last check-up but the

Those close to him are cenvinced his sense of destiny and duty will keep him on the throne as long as his health allows.

But he has occasionally talked

of handing over power and bas

begun to tell his subjects, many of

whom see him as a father figure, that sooner or later they will have to do without him and shape their own future.

King Hussein has made clear he still intends his brother Crown Prince Hassan, respected for his intellect, to succeed him.

"My biggest achievement has been to give the people of Jord.m; fegardless of their original what is their right, shaing and shaping in their future and demo-

(Continues - page 5)

King condoles Sri Lanka

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday sent a cable of condolences to acting Sri Lankan President Dingiri Banda Wijetunga, expressing deep sorrow and regret over the assassination of President Ranasinghe Premadasa (see page 8).

OIC not planning PLO's removal

DUBAI (R) — The 51-member Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) was not considering the removal of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) from its governing council, as reported by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, OIC sources said Sunday. The sources at OIC headquarters in Jeddah said the four-year term of a Palestinian who had the post of assistant secretary general dealing with the Palestinian issue and Jerusalem had expired and a replacement is yet to be named. They said Islamic foreign ministers meeting in Karachi last week had, at the PLO's request, set up a fivemember committee to consider ways of increasing Palestinian representation on OIC organs. The OIC did not have a governing council and was looking into more rather than less Palestinian representation, they added.

Hariri takes aid mission to Bahrain

MANAMA (AFP) - Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri arrived in Bahrain Sunday, the second leg of a Gulf tour aimed at securing reconstruction aid for his war-battered country, officials here said. On Saturday, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) pledged support for post-war reconstruction in Lebanon during a visit there by Mr. Hariri.

Clinton hails Athens accord on Bosnia

ROME (R) - President Bill Clinton Sunday hailed a decision by Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic in Athens to sign an accord to end the Bosnian civil war as a "first result of the firm line adopted by the international community," an Italian government statement said. Mr. Cimton told Italian Prime Minister Carlo. Azeglio Ciampi that the international community's hard line on the Bosnian conflict might need to be reinforced through further measures, the statement added (see related story on page 8).

King lauds Yemeni polls, pays tribute to leadership

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty of the assumption of his constitu-King Hussein Sunday sent a cable to Yemeni President Ali Abdul-King Hussein and President lah Saleh congratulating him on Saleh also exchanged views on the success of legislative elections issues of common interest and held in Yemen late last month. "It is a source of delight and

own name and on behalf of Jor- said. dan's people and government, our sincerest congratulations on Yemen's democratic achievements," the King said. "Yemen's free elections em-

body the democratic march which sought Arab democratic march. King Hussein praised the leadership of President Saleh, saying that the Yemeni leadership had

played "a historic role in laying down the foundations of unity and democracy in Yemen." Later Sunday King Hussein telephoned President Saleh, to

personally congratulate him and wish him continued good health and happiness, and the Yemeni people further progress and prosperity. President Saleh congratulated

the King on the 40th anniversary

MARJ AL ZOHOUR, Lebanon (Agencies) — Palestinian expel-

the rain Sunday, ending a week-

long outdoor sit-in protest re-

sumption of Arab-Israeli peace

Aziz Rantisi, said strong winds

and heavy rains overnight made it impossible to continue the pro-

test.
"We spent a sleepless night in stormy weather, trying without success to light fires and stay dry." Dr. Rantisi said. "That's

why we decided to end the strike."

The 396 expellees went back to

their camp in two batches, the

first at 3 a.m. (0000 GMT) and

the second at 10 a.m. (0700

Wrapped in wet blankets, they

carried their drenched mattresses

and other belongings on their

backs as they walked the 2.5

kilometres north to the camp.

We're now thinking of a new

escalation."

talks in Washington.

Expellees end sit-in

lees in southeast Lebanon overlooking the sit-in location trudged back to their tent camp in and watched the retreat through

The exiles' spokesman, Abdul waiting for the weather to im-

means of enhancing democracy, freedom and human rights, the pride for me to send you in my Jordan News Agency, Petra,

YSP accepts tally

The Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) Sunday announced it accepted the results of the counis based on political and intellectry's first multi-party parliamentual pluralism," he said. "Ye- tary election despite charges of men's successful elections were voting irregularities from some foundation stone in the long party members, reports from Sanaa said.

> A spokesman for the party, which has shared power with the General People's Congress of President Saleh since North and South Yemen here were joined in May 1990, described Tuesday's elections as as 'victory for democracy and the people of Yemen. Some YSP members had charged voting irregularities and filed protests with Yemen's supreme court.

According to the country's

Continued on page 5)

Israeli troops, dressed in rain-coats, fanned across the hills

As soon as they reached the camp, the exiles huddled around

kerosene heaters in their tents

Lebanon is gripped by a cold front that has caused unseasonal

The Palestinians began the sit-

in Monday to protest the resump-tion of Middle East peace talks in

Washington before their repatria-

Palestinians boycotted the

U.S.-sponsored peace talks for

four months because Israel has

-refused to obey a U.N. Security

Council resolution ordering the

allowing the return of a group of

Palestinians expelled years ago,

brought the Palestinian delega-

tion back to the negotiations last

Other Israeli moves, including

repatriation of the expellees.

return of 30 exiles as first step

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat told a rally celebrating the return of a group of veteran exiles in the West Bank town of Nablus Sunday that a Palestinian state was around the

"Today we are on the political map. Tomorrow we will be on the geographical map," eyewitnesses quoted Mr. Arafat as saying in a telephone call from his Tunis headquarters that was wired into a loudspeaker.

In his 40-minute speech, Mr. Arafat emphasised that the return of 15 longterm exiles Friday. with a further 15 expected Monday, was one of the fruits of the peace negotiations now in their ninth round in Washington.

He also extended greetings to about 400 adherents of the Isla-mic group Hamas exiled in December and stuck in South Lebanon. Mr. Arafat has addressed few rallies in the past, including a similar gathering in Ramallah on

Friday. Hamas supporters at the rally attacked the return of the 30 as an underhanded deal. All those allowed back were mostly older activists exiled between Israel's seizure of the occupied territories in 1967 and 1987, when the Palestinians started a violent uprising against Israeli rule.

Hamas supporters accused the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) of selling out on the demand that the peace talks be postponed until their activists stuck at the border village of Mari Al Zohour were allowed home

This celebration is an attempt to black out the cause of the deportees in Marj Al. Zohour," a Hamas activist shouted into the loudspeaker at Al Najah university before Mr. Arafat spoke.

The Israeli government said it allowed the 30 back as a gesture for the peace talks, while their opposition accused them of fuelling unreal expectations of the right of return for all Palestinians.

The return of 30 Palestinian leaders is only one small step before the return of four million," said on poster at the rally.

Arafat hails | East Jerusalemites could vote on autonomy with conditions U.S. to keep Palestinians informed on settlements

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM accept this compromise, as well three conditions: East Jerusalem (Agencies) — Palestinians from as the idea of international superwill not be represented on the (Agencies) — Palestinians from Arab East Jerusalem will be allowed to vote in West Bank elections for self-government but will be barred from running as candidates, the Haaretz newspap-

er reported Sunday. Haaretz said that the agreement came during background talks with the United States at ace talks in Washington.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's office denied the report. But the minister of energy, Amnon Rubinstein of the leftwing Meretz Party, said letting the East Jerusalem Palestinians vote reflects the position of both the ruling Labour Party and of Meretz, constituting a govern-

"I have no doubt that this will be the final result if the negotiations are successful," he told the Associated Press during a pause in the weekly cabinet meeting. Haaretz quoted a high-level Israeli official as saying American intervention brought Israel to

ment majority.

The status of Jerusalem is one of the most delicate issues in the peace talks focusing on Palesti-

nian autonomy. in either voting or running might undermine support for any autonomy plan. That would eliminate June, refused to consider any candidates such as Faisal Hus-

seini, head of the Palestinian

by AFP, Israel would impose

open borders, they must live separately for an interim period. He was referring to the closure above Israel imposed in the West Bank Mos Israel imposed in the West Bank and Gaza Strip one month ago. Moshe Katzav, head of the and Gaza Strip one month ago. According to sources quoted

vision of the elections in the council, only East Jerusalem occupied territories.

Palestinians with a second In the past, Israel insisted that address in the occupied territories

its own military oversee the ballot can stand for elections and voting boxes, but the Palestinians stations must be set up outside the Jerusalem boundaries. The elections will be for a council to be established in the

framework of the autonomy period, after three years of which The preclusion of 150,000 talks start to settle the final status Palestinians from East Jerusalem of the occupied territories. Ex-premier Yitzhak Shamir, who lost general elections last

vote for East Jerusalemites.

Differences over the voting rights of Palestinians from East Mr. Rubinstein insisted that Jerusalem led to the collapse of before Israelis and Palestinians the Likud-Labour government in can reach the stage of peace and. March 1990. Labour backed the vote for East Jerusalemites in line with the same three conditions

(Continued on page 5)

Suicide of Beregovoy stuns French political world

PARIS (Agencies) — The French political world was in a state of shock Sunday following the suicide Saturday of former Social-ist Prime Minister Pierre Beregovoy, and speculation was rife' about the reasons behind his de-

Mr. Beregevoy, 67, shot him-self in the head at Nevers, central France, and died a few hours later aboard a belicopter while being flown to the Elite Val de Grace military hospital in Paris.

across the political spectrum over his totally unexpected and unprecedented act. Prime Minister Edouard Balladur said Sunday he would postpone two government decisions on France's finances and recovery

Consternation was felt right

out of respect for the death of his predecessor. Several leading Socialists lost no time in denoucing attacks that had been made against Mr. Bere-



Pierre Beregovoy

govoy, both political and personal, that they said were behind his

Political friends said Mr. Beregovoy, who had announced a drive against corruption when he came to power in April last year, had been deeply wounded by

allegations of impropriety over an interest-free loan he took from a businessman friend to buy a flat seven years ago. Harsh attacks on his government's economic record and the

Socialists' disarray following their humiliating election rout to the centre-right a month ago had added to his distress although he retained his seat in the National Assembly. The newspaper Journal du

Dimanche said his suicide was a Shakespearean tragedy about men and power, "Pierre Beregovoy's death has

stirred deep emotion in our country," Mr. Balladur said. He delayed for several days his

economic recovery programme which was due to be announced on Wednesday. A report expected to be sharply critical of the large public deficits left by Mr. Beregovoy's one-year-long gov-

(Continued on page 5)

U.S. said planning to offer aid to **Palestinians**

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM Agencies) - An Arab member of Israeli parliament said Sunday the Clinton administration was preparing a broad aid plan for Palestinians in the occupied terri-

Abdul Wahab Darawshe said on return from the United States that National Security Council aide Martin Indyk told him the administration planned to offer \$24 million in immediate aid for the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, sealed off by Israel for more than a month."

"But he is preparing a more comprehensive plan with the participation of Western European countries. Gulf states, and the American administration for larger aid to residents of the territorics in investment, industrial and ich development," said Mr. Darasche, leader of the Democratic Arab party.

He told Israel Radio the plan

would be brought to the next round of multilateral Middle East peace talks on economic development in Rome this week.

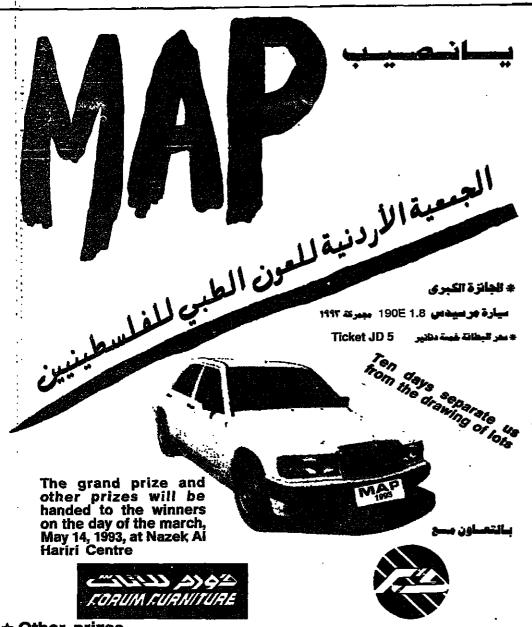
Mr. Darawshe quoted Mr. Indyk as saying the closure was a "time bomb" for which an alternative would have to be found. The ban on entering Israel, prompted by a surge in violence, has kept about 120,000 Palestinian workers from lowpaying jobs.
"He said this situation is

dangerous not only for Israel and the Palestinians, but also for the interests of the United States and the Arab countries in the region. So the present situation cannot continue and alternatives must be found for employment and development," Mr. Darawshe said. Israeli military figures have warned the indefinite closure had

created a "pressure cooker" stirring frustration and rage among the nearly two million Arabs of the territories. Energy Minister Amnon Rubenstein said Israel's cabinet decided Sunday to allow entry of 33,000 Palestinian workers with

families. Israeli agriculture and construction have been hit hard by the loss of West Bank and Gaza Labourers.

Israel Radio said the closure otherwise remained in effect.



TICKETS ARE SOLD AT

17. Al Hussein Camp Pharmacy

Club Street - Al Wihdat

20. Abu Sharif Pharmacy - Al

21. Milano Pharmacy - Gardens

22. Basma pharmacy - Gar-

23. Al Alia Pharmacy - Gardens

24. Sakhaa Pharmacy - Gar-

27. Jamal Pharmacy - Al

28. Al Abdali Pharmacy - Al

29. Al shadian Pharmacy - the

30. The Great Arab Pharmacy -

pany (CJC) - the Housing

King Faisal Street

31. Babish - Shmeisani

Ashrafiveh

dents Street

dens Street

Jubeiha

Sports City

Abdali

Street

Jabal Al Hussein

Bank Complex - Shmeisani

34. The Jordan Clothing Company (CJC) - Al Salt Street 35. The Jordan Clothing Com-

Hakous building
36. Ghassan Jeweliery - Tawfiq
Khouri - Al Swefiyeh

37. Eastern Tours Co - Jabal

38. The University Bookshop

39. The Jordanian International

40. The Power Hut - Shmeisani.

The Modern Zarqa Pharmacy

2. Al Shuqairi Pharmacy - Yar-

3. Al Haitham Pharmacy - Irbid

mouk University Street

1. Al Saadoun Pharmacy

Refugee Camp

Establishment for Commer-

cial Services - Seventh Cir-

Jabai Luweibdeh

Luweibdeh

ZARQA:

IRBID:

AQABA:

Issa Murad Company.

Khalili Company.

Royal Jordanian.

Aqaba Pharmacy

set, 14 inches, presented by Ahmad

7. Eighth prize: Goldstar television set,

. 14 inches, presented by Darwish Al

8. Ninth prize: Goldstar television set, 14

9. Tenth prize: Amman-Rome-Amman

10. Eleventh prize: Amman-Greece-

11. Twelfth prize: Sony stereo set, pre-

In addition to other consolation prizes

sented by Sony Company.

Amman air ticket presented by the

inches, presented by Darwish Al Kha-

air ticket, presented by the Royal

pany (CJC) - Sweifieh

☆ Other prizes ☆ Drawing the lots will take place May 12, 1993 and results will be announced in the

★ For information please call tel. 611065

AMMAN:

- 1. Safeway 2. Al Rainbow Star - 1st Circle 18. Malak Pharmacy - Al Wihdat 3. George Sahliyah Electric 19. Al Wihdat Pharmacy - the Shop - Jabal Amman - Mut-
- ran Street 4. The Flowers Club - Jabai Am-
- man Astra building 5. Flowers Club Al Fareed Complex Al Abdali.
- 6 Burgan for handicrafts 2nd
- 7. Bonita Restaurant Second 8 Firas Bookshop - 3rd Circle
- San Hotel Gardens Street Gardens Str
- 10. Sweet Supermarker பார் Uthaina
- 11. Kishek Jewellery Umm
- Uthaina 12. Antoine Beauty Shop - 5th
- Circle 13. Al Khouli Pharmacy - 6th
- Circle 14. Rwand Pharmacy - Wadi
- Sagra 15: Firas Pharmacy - Jabal Al 32. Rajaa Pharmacy - Shmeisa-
- 16. The Interior Circle Pharmacy 33. The Jordan Clothing Com-: - Jabal Al Hussein

OTHER PRIZES:

1. Second prize: DAEWOO televisions set, coloured, 29 inches, presented by the South Electronics Establishment.

2. Third prize: OKI OF-7 facsimile machine, presented by the Modern Arab Estat "ishment for Business. Fourth prize: Amman-Toronto-Amman

air ticket, presented by the Royal Jordanian. 4. Fifth prize: Amman-Frankfurt-Amman

air ticket, presented by the Royal Jordanian. 5. Sixth prize: Samsung television set,

14 inches, presented by Ahmad Issa Murad Company. Seventh prize: Samsung television

New world youth organisation formed at Baghdad meeting By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A meeting in Baghdad last week has given birth to a new international organisation grouping students and youth from 62 countries, participants said Sunday.

The body, official known as Non-Aligned Youth and Student Organisation, will replace the defunct youth organisation which used to be based on he East bloc with the avowed goal of "fighting imperialist forces," said Sitaram Kalanoria, who led the Indian delegation the April 26-28 conference in the Iraqi capital.

"The organisation will fill the vacuum left behind by the demise

of the international youth associations and unions following the collapse of the East bloc countries," Mr. Kalanoria told the Jordan

"There is a pressing need to raise issues related to youth and and students on the international level, and, hopefully, the organisation will be able to perform this task as well as bring together people from all over the world," he said.

The International Union of Students and the World Federation

of Democratic Youth were two of the leading organisations based in the East bloc, and they were renowned for convening annual meetings and cultural festivals grouping mostly Third World

Despite massive gatherings, none of the East bloc-based organisations gained international prominence since they were seen as mostly directly or indirectly contributing what the West saw as the propaganda machine of the former Soviet Union and its

With the collapse of the Soviet Union and the communist regimes in the East bloc, the new regimes ordered the closure of the organisations and seized their property, effectively doing away with some of the glaring symbols of the communist era.

Mr. Kalanoria said Japanese and Russian student and youth bodies attended the Baghdad meeting and are now members of the new organisation, which is otherwise composed of Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) member countries.

While essentially remaining an NAM affiliate, the Youth and Student Organisation is open to countries outside the NAM, said Mr. Kalanoria, who was named to head the media and information Jordan and India will host the two Asian regional centres of the

organisation while Morocco and Kenya will host African opera-Nigeria was elected chairman and Lebanon, Egypt, Russia and

Mauritius were named vice-chairmen of the organisation, which will set up its general secretariat in the Iraqi capital, according to

Arab participation in the conference depended on the state of political relations between Arab capitals and Baghdad. While no Gulf country was represented at all, delegates — affiliated with the ruling party or the opposition — represented Egypt, Syria, Morocco, Lebanon, Sudan, Algeria, Yemen and Tunisia, Mr. Kalanoria said.

"Iraq, despite its financial difficulties resulting from the international sanctions imposed on it, is funding the organisation on an interim basis," Mr. Kalanoria added.

Iraqi Vice-President Taha Yassin Ramadan and Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz addressed the Baghdad conference, which, in a final statement, called for an immediate lifting of the sanctions against Iraq, imposed by the U.N. after the August 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, said the Indian delegate, secretary-general of a Calcutta- based chapter of the United Nations Youth Organisation. According to Mr. Kalanoria, "nowhere during the conference,

attended by 300 delegates from 62 countries, or during side discussions trail revised the issue of Kuwait." "They (Iraqi officials) seem to pointedly avoid any comment on Kuwait or give any impression that Iraq still entertains any territorial claim" to the emirate, he said.

Kidnapped diplomats plead for help, water

LONDON (R) — Three Euro-pean diplomats kidnapped in they were being held in chains in Afghanistan have pleaded for water and urgent help from their governments to free them in a second letter smuggled out from

The letter, smuggled to Pakistan Saturday and the contents of which were obtained by a Reuter correspondent in Europe, accused Pakistani officials negotiating their release of holding up any

solution. "Our health is deteriorating very badly," it said. "Do something for us we need water most orgently."

The three - Jack Dodds of Britain, Stefan Elhert of Germany and Gert Piening of the Netherlands - are all antinarcotics officials who were on a duty trip to Pakistan's Baluchis-

Pakistani officials say Afghan Mujahedeen commander Ghulam Nabi Noorzai abducted them at gunpoint 11 days ago just inside Afghanistan and is holding them hostage until Pakistan frees two of his men it arrested last month for gun-running.

Islamabad has refused and disputed statements in a first letter

they were being held in chains in a cave and fed only bread and

According to the London Sunday Times, the three have been moved from the cave to a building in the town of Spin Boldak, near the main border crossing into Pakistan.

Saeed Jalai, a representative of the hardline Hezb-e-Islami party Mr. Noorzai belongs to, told Reuters Friday he had seen the three last Tuesday in a building.

He said they were free to sit outside their room and had plenty of food but gave no further de-

Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, Afghan prime minister-designate and head of Hezb-e-Islami, had told Mr. Noorzai ordering him to release the men immediately and unconditionally, Mr. Jalal said.

The second letter said Mr. Noorzai was ready to release the diplomats but his men must be freed in return. Such hostage taking is common among the Pashtun tribesmen in the lawless countryside on both sides of the Pakistan-Afghan border.

"The Pakistanis are working against a solution," it charged. | their exports," he said.

Kuwait plans defence pact with Russia

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Kuwaiti Defence Minister Sheikh Ali Al Sabah was quoted Sunday as saying the emirate will sign a defence pact with Russia and dig a trench along its borders with

Iraq. Sheikh Ali told Al Watan daily that the pact will be signed in August, but he did not give any further details.

Since its liberation from a seven-month Iraqi occupation Feb. 26, 1991, Kuwait has signed 10-year military agreements with the United States, Britain and France, all members of the 32nation coalition that fought the Gulf war.

The agreements call for periodic exercises and stockpiling of weapons in the emirate.

The defence minister told Al Watan after a meeting with a number of parliament deputies, and a trip to the northern borders Saturday, that Kuwait will start in three months digging a trench along its 210-kilometres border

with Iraq.
Sheikh Ali said the cabinet of ministers has approved the trench, three metres deep and 5 metres wide. There will also be a three to four metres sand barrier behind the trench.

He said five companies will be working on the project so as to finish it as soon as possible.

Deputy Ahmad Bager said a number of parliamentarians have asked the defence minister to surround the trench with millions of land mines that were planted around the emirate by Iraqis during their occupation.

A number of Kuwaitis, supported by the government, have been calling for about a year for building a wall to protect the emirate from Iraqi infiltrators. Sheikh Ali told Al Watan that

Kuwaiti forces along the border with Iraq will be boosted with new military surveillance equip-

Iraq has not recognised the new border demarcation finalised in November by a United Nations committee. The demilitarised border area is patroled by the observers for violatio the Gulf war ceasefire.

'Egypt lost \$300 million'

Egypt lost more than \$300 million in unpaid exports to Iraq and is making contacts to recover the money, an Egyptian official was quoted Sunday as saying.

The goods were exported before Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, the secretary general of the Egyptian Chambers of Commerce Federation, Mustafa Zaki, told the United Arab Emirates daily Al Ittihad.

"The total losses of Egyptian exporters to Iraq exceed \$300 million as it has not paid back due to the economic sanctions imposed by the United Nations." he said. "We are making contacts to regain their rights.'

Mr. Zaki did not make clear if the contacts were with Iraq. which cut links with Egypt after it joined the U.S.-dominated coalition which fought Iraq in the Gulf

He said some exporters had recovered \$42 million or 90 per cent of the value of their exports in compensation from the Arab Corporation for Investment Guarantee, which had insured their exports.

"The remaining exporters are not insured because they did not know there is an organisation that insures exports against all risks or because they believe such insurance could increase the cost of

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Iraq denounces exiled opposition as gamblers

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq denounced exiled Iraqi opposition leaders Sunday as people who gambled their nights away at the roulette table and said the Iraqi people disdained their dealings with the United States. "Those meeting with (U.S. Secretary of State) (Warren) Christopher and Vice-President (Al Gore)...ate State) (Warren) Christopher and Vice-President (Al Gore)...ate nothing but a piece of scrap." the ruling Baath Party newspaper Al Thawra said. Al Thawra, in a signed commentary, said the Iraqi opposition figures were a bunch of "gamblers" propelled into the limelight by "American media." It said: "They spend their nights playing roulette and gambling." The commentary was Iraq's first reaction to a meeting between the opposition leaders and senior U.S. officials. Mr. Gore described the opposition Friday as "democratic" and Mr. Christopher said following a meeting with leaders of the Iraqi National Congress that the United States would revive its push for a U.N. commission to investigate alleged war revive its push for a U.N. commission to investigate alleged war crimes by Iraq. "Here, the (Iraqi) people, including the kids who know nothing of politics, scoff at you," Al Thawra said.

Saudi killed, another injured in Somalia

MOGADISHU (AFP) — A Saudi Arabian doctor working for a Muslim aid agency was killed and a colleague was injured in a gun ambush in Mogadishu, a U.N. spokesman said. The doctor, working for the group "Aid for Africa," was driving Friday to the headquarters of Moroccan forces in the U.S.-led multinational operation in Somalia when the attack happened, U.N. spokesman David Stockwell said. His car was ambushed by an "unidentified Somalian," as he headed for the headquarters in central Moga-dishu, Mr. Stockwell said. The doctor, whose identity was not given, was declared dead on arrival at hospital, he said. Another Saudi doctor who was travelling in the vehicle was injured in the hand in the shooting, he said. The killing brings to five the number of non-governmental organisation members killed since the start of the U.S.-led Restore Hope Operation last December, Mr. Stock-

Meningitis kill 66 people in Sudan

KHARTOUM (AP) -- Meningitis has killed 66 people in Sudan since its outbreak early last month. Dr. Sadek Mahjoub. the director of the epidemic diseases in the Sudanese Health Ministry, said 35 people died in the central state, 14 in the Khartoum area, six in each of Kordofan and the eastern states, two in each of Darfur and Equatoria and one in the northern state. Quoted by the government news agency SUNA, Mr. Mahjoub said Saturday that no cases were reported in the south Sudanese states of Upper Nile and Bahr Al Ghazal. The rate of the meningitis this year was the lowest in the corresponding periods in the last several years, Dr. Mahjoub said without elaboration. Dr. Mahjoub only said 482 cases were reported so far throughout Sudan. He gave no breakdown but noted that the disease was of no epidemic proportion this year.

UAE court throws out six biasphemy convictions

ABU DHABI (AFP) - An appeals court in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) threw out the convictions of six of 10 resident Indian actors sentenced for blasphemy, newspapers reported here Sunday. The court of appeal in Sharjah Saturday ruled the six had not realised they had insulted Islam and Christianity in a play staged in the emirate last May, Al Khaleej and other newspapers said. But it extended to 10 years the prison sentences of two actors. and upheld the convictions of the two other resident actors as well as that of playwright Vasudevan Pilai, who was tried in absentia. A lower court had earlier sentenced all 10 actors and the playwright to six years each in prison. The play, entitled "Ants that feast on corpses," caused a furore in the country, prompting police in Sharjah to immediately arrest the 10 actors, all Hindus. "The play was indirectly aimed at blaspheming Islam and had sacrilegious references to Christian sacred symbols," the prosecution told the court. More than 350,000 Indians live in the UAE.

Saudi says 1,899 foreigners converted to Islam

DUBAI (R) — A total of 1,899 people, mostly Asians, converted to Islam in Saudi Arabia in the past 10 months, the official Saudi Press Agency said Sunday. It said 1,281 Filipinos were among the men and women converts, plus 270 Sri Lankans and 259 Indians. SPA said 13 American men and five women also converted along with six Britons, three men and three women.

Egypt's top clerics called to witness box

CAIRO (R) — Lawyers defending Muslim militants charged with killing writer Farag Foda have called senior Muslim clerics to testify. Foda, an outspoken opponent of Muslim fundamentalism. was gunned down outside his house last June. Defence lawyers called on Sunday Gad Al Haq Ali Gad Al Haq, government-appointed rector of Al Azhar University which attacked Foda's writings as unorthodox days before his death. Al Azhar is Cairo's 1,000-year-old seat of Islamic learning. The lawyers at the Supreme State Emergency Court also summoned Egypt's highest stateappointed Muslim cleric, Mufti Sheikh Mohammad Sayyid Tantawi. Thirteen people are on trial for the killing which shocked secular intellectuals in Egypt. The court Sunday ordered one of the defendants previously allowed bail to be remanded in custody along with eight others. Another defendant, Ashraf Sayyid Ibrahim, was arrested last week and is being interrogated in connection with the attempted assassination of Information Minister Safwat Al Sherif. One other defendant remains on bail and two more are at large.

Afghan charge d'affaires in Paris resigns

PARIS (AFP) — Afghanistan's charge d'affaires here, Hassem Akram, resigned Sunday saying he had to "show his disagreement with the government" of President Burhanuddin Rabbani. In his resignation statement, Mr. Akram condemned the "failure to respect verious agreements made hy President Pabhagi and respect various agreements made by President Rabbani and (Defence Minister) Ahmad Shah Masoud." Mr. Akram, who was the first diplomat to be posted after the Mujahedeen's ousting of President Najibullah in April 1992, called for the formation of a new coalition government "with the participation of all parties and without the exclusion of any ethnic or religious group.

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PROG	RAMME TWO
18:00	Les 400 Coups de Virgine
19-00	News in French
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Anglican Church Tel. 652826, Tel. 628543. Armenian Catholic Church Tel. Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751. Amman International Church Tel. 652526. Evangelical Latheran Church Tel: \$24328. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tcl. 823824, 654932. Church of the Nazarene Tcl. 675691.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of

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ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

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MARKET PRICES

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55% of drivers were in road accidents, says Petra survey

AMMAN (Petra) — A recent motorists questioned said that occasional campaigns by the traf-News Agency, Petra, revealed that 55 per cent of motorists in Jordan have at one time or another been involved in road

BRIEF

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determine whether or not motorists abide by traffic regulations and about 30 per cent of them and speed limits were distributed to 300 licensed drivers in the Amman area and other governo-

The average age of motorists involved in the survey was 37.
Eight-six per cent of those questioned were males.

Motorists holding private driving licences accounted for 66.7 per cent of the total number of drivers surveyed.

The study revealed that 47.4 per cent of sample have held driving licences for 10 or more

years. The results of the survey showed that nearely 45 per cent of those fined for violating traffic rules were guilty of exceeding

speed limit. More than 52 per cent of the

fic department to encourage drivers to abide by regulations were useful and effective sometimes, but not always; nearly 11 per cent of the those fined for violations Questionnaires which sought to had filed complaints against the traffic police for various reasons; said that the behaviour of traffic police was entirely unacceptable.

At least 29 per cent of the sample said their licences were temporarily revoked at least once

About 12 per cent of the re-spondents criticised the traffic police for failing to apply rules on all motorists equally and demanded that police officers set a good example of "the man of the law."

They also demanded that the police show more understanding in cases of emergency and not fine drivers of public cars taking

their families on outings.

Some taxi drivers demanded raising the current fare complaining that it was insufficient and did not help cover operational costs.

| Political parties seek wider social security

AMMAN (J.T.) — A committee torture, repression, deportation representing Jordanian political parties Sunday issued a statement demanding that the government expand the scope of the Social Security Law to include the widest possible sector of the Jordanian people.

The statement called for more care of women and their needs. and more attention to the rehabilitation and employment of handicapped persons.

The statement, which the parties said was issued to mark this year's Labour Day, paid tribute to the workers' relentless efforts in reconstruction and develop-

Referring to the Israelioccupied Arab lands and the trade union workes there, the statement called on nations of the world to extend support to the Palestinian workers who, the statement said, are undergoing

and other forms of criminal actions by the Israeli authorities. It said the occupied Arab lands are clamped under an Israeliimposed siege and it demanded that the Arabs and Muslims seek

ways to lift it. The parties' statement also appealed to the world community to lift the U.N. sanctions imposed on Iraq since 1990 and save the lives of thousands of Iraqi citizens who are facing food and medicine

While Iraqi funds remain frozen, thousands of Iraqis are dying due to lack of proper medical attention and food, said the statement,

It said now that the Iraqi government has accepted and complied with all United Nations

Specialists to review environmental strategies

AMMAN (J.T.) - The German Friedrich Naumann Stiftung Foundation is organising a three-day conference entitled "Preconditions and Requirements of Successful Environmental Policies in the Arab World," to be held at Yarmouk University on May 3.

A foundation statement said that 22 Arab and European environmentalists and scientists will participate and deliver papers. and 17 scholars from Jordan in addition to a large number of concerned individuals will attend the conference.

The statement said the conference, which is being held in cooperation with Yarmouk University and the Jordan Society for the Control of Environmental Pollu-

tion (JSCEP), will hear an open-ing speech by JSCEP President Ahmad Obeidat, who will present a working paper entitled Towards a Regional Strategy for Environmental Protection in the Arab World."

Other papers will cover: the possibility of a market economy to contribute to sustainable development; detection of water leakage from dams; characterisa-tion of Saharan dust, erosion as an environmental hazard in low lands; the impact of road construction on the environment; environmental pollution in Arab cities, environmental legislations in Jordan; protection of natural environmental resources; pesticides concentration and the actual state of the atmosphere

MAP marchers gear up for 15 km sponsored wal

By Elia Nasrallah Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - The Jordanian chapter of the London-based MAP (Medical Aid for Palestinians) plans to hold its annual sponsored walk on the outskirts of Amman and to date has registered 5,000 participants in the 15-kilometre walk scheduled for

MAP Jordan chapter Director Nadia Alami told the Jordan Times Sunday that at least four banks and several major institutions are backing the fund-raising walk by setting up refreshment along the marchers' route and providing shirts and caps for the walkers.

Representatives of the foreign diplomatic corps in Jordan, including the embassies of France, the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada, have also registered for the walk which will kick off from the Baccalaureate School in Fuheis area, wind through Fuheis and Sweileh towns and end at the Nazek Al Hariri Centre, Ms. Alami said.

"We have so far registered participants from banks, embassies and companies, but this week we will register other citizens, and we hope the number will reach 8,000 to 10,000," she said.

MAP President Lord Ian Gilmur and Board Chairman David Walton will take part in the sponsored walk which will be held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Honorary President of the Jordanian chapter, Ms. Alami added.

The annual event is aimed at raising funds to help support the medical needs of the Palestinian people under Israeli rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Ms. Alami said MAP was also organising a raffle for a Mercedes Benz automobile, and the proceeds would go to benefit the



Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvoth Al Hassan led the 1991 MAP march in Amman (Petra photo

Palestinians. The raffle tickets are already on sale in Amman, Zarqu, Irbid and Agaes and the drawing of iots will take place at the end of the march at the Nozek Al Hariri Centre on May 14 sate Ns. Ala-

sponsored dinner at the Grand Forte Hotel for the sums cause, she added.

Last year, Ms. Alann said, MAP raised and offered \$202,080 for medical programmes in Palestinian refugee comps in the occupied territories as well as in Lebanon, adding that she hoped this year's march will raise even its attention mainly towards helping the Palestinians under occupation, but in 1991 the organisation opened a health centre at Hittin retugee camp in Marka, east of Amman. The JD 68,000 centre includes four clinics which offer dental and general examination services, a laboratory and an

X-ray unit. In 1992, Ms. Alami said, 18,000 people benefitted from the centre's services against, 6,500 in

Working in collaboration with other non-governmental organisations and the Foreign Ministry's Palestinian Affairs Department, MAP now plans to open

Founded in 1990, MAP directs another health centre at the C refugee canno near carasta, 4 of Amman, Ms. Alern report The Jordan chapter date

> murchers and violots an as ment of bandicratis, f. embroideries and many co items will be held at the Nazz Harin Centre The bazaar will orea or the

> said a charity datasit offering

of the walk (around 11 a.m.) proceeds from sales will ge benefit the medical program. for the Palestianan refugees,

Ms. Alami said MAP shorts caps for the walkers are on-

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Queen to deliver keynote address at population conference

the keynote address at a conference on "Population Change and Developmental Policies," sponsored by the Centre for Strategic Studies at the University of Jordan, More than 16 papers will be presented covering areas that relate to Jordan's population composition and foreign policy, population composition and democracy, population change and the environment, and population change and national security. The two-day conference is being held at the auditorium of the Faculty of Engineering and Technology at the university.

Princess Wijdan opens theatre festival

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputising Her Majesty Queen Noor Sunday, Princess Wijdan Ali opened the second Theatre Festival

Belgian trade minister arrives for talks

cooperation between Jordan and Belgium in various fields.

Pharmaceutical conference begins at JUST

pharmacy, pharmacology, therapeutice and pharmaceutical education.

art, according to an embassy press release. The embassy said Iapanese posters date back to hundreds of years ago when they were used as official notices. In the 19th century, the release said, posters in Japan developed from being a means of conveying! information to an effective advertising medium.

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AMMAN (J.T.) - Her Majesty Queen Noor today will deliver

of the Jordanian Youth, which was held at the Royal Cultural Centre. The festival, which runs until May 18, is held to mark Jordan's celebration of His Majesty King Hussein's assumption of his constitutional powers. The opening ceremony was attended by Their Highnesses Princess Natia'a and Princess Rajwa Ali.

AMMAN (Petra) - The Belgian External Trade Minister Robert Urbain Sunday arrived here on a several day official visit to Jordan, during which he will chair the Belgian side to the joint Jordanian-Belgian Committee meetings which start here today. The Belgian minister will hold talks with his Jordanian counterpart Abdullah Ensour and senior Jordanian officials on scopes of

IRBID (J.T.) — The first International Middle East Conference on Pharmaceutical Sciences will be held here today, according to Naji Najib, dean of the pharmacentical faculty of the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST). Dr. Najib said the three-day conference aims to review contemporary scientific developments in the fast-growing areas of pharmaceutical sciences. Taking part in the conference will be renowned international experts who made outstanding contributions in the field of pharmaceutical education and research. Dr. Najib, a member of the organising committee, said the panel received abstracts of scientific papers on original research done in the areas of pharmaceutical technology, chemistry, pharmaceutical analysis and pharmacognosy, phytochemistry, biopharmaceutics, and pharmacokinetics. The papers also cover clinical and hospital

Japanese poster exhibit to open

AMMAN (J.T.) — A week-long exhibition of "Contemporary Japanese Posters" will be opened Wednesday at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC). The exhibition, organised by the Japanese embassy in cooperation with the Japan Foundation and the RCC, includes works by 15 famous Japanese artists who havebeen chosen for their strong consciousness of the poster as a social

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- Art exhibition entitled "The Legend of Petra II" by artist Suha Shoman at the National Gallery for Fine Arts.
- ☆ Art exhibition by Samia Al Zaru and Adnan Yahya at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery.
- * Exhibition of ceramics by Margaret Tadros at the Spanish Cultural Centre. Art exhibition by Jordanian artist Ahmad Nawash at the
- French Cultural Centre. ☆ Exhibition of sculptures by Syrian artist Aktham Abdnl Hameed at Baladna Art Gallery.
- ☆ Art exhibition by Syrian Artist Yousef Abdelke at Al Balka'a Gallery, Al Fuhels city. * Art exhibition entitled 'Fragments: Weavings and Works on Paper" by Kevin A. Hluch and Margaret M. Hluch at the
- American Centre. ☆ Save the Children Designer Showcase: Exhibition of rugs, quilts, cushions, walliangings, picture frames, lamp shades, leather handbags, canvas tote bags, natural olive oil soap, collector's dolls, food, embroidered fashionwear, baskets and seating; all manufactured by the Bani Hamida and the Jordan River Designs projects. The exhibition is at a new building next to the Business Bank, between Mukhabarat Bridge and the Prime Ministry (4th Circle), Queen Noor Street.

By Walced Sadi

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HMOUD AL KAYED

rector General: DILLMMAD AMAD

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csimile: 661242 e Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. bscription and advertising rates are available from the rdan Times advertising department.

aper tiger at Karachi

SED ON the deliberations and decisions by the conference of the foreign ministers of the member governments of the Organisation of Eric Conference (OIC) in Karachi, the only wer to the question "Is the Islamic World a er tiger?" is, "yes, it is a paper tiger." That slims should feel angry and indignant at what eing done to Muslims in many trouble spots is phylous truism and the conference did express anger and indignation. But when it came to slims taking action to stop harm being done to Ir Muslim brothers, the conference lansed into me generalities. On Kashmir, for instance, the serence merely asked member states "to take necessary steps" to stop abuses being committhere. On Bosnia, the conference asked seone else, the U.N. or the Western powers, to something that it would not itself do. The one rld power, the U.S., and the West, especially tain and France, do not want an independent ion to be taken on Bosnia, least of all any ependent Muslim action, so there is not going te any action.

fact on Bosnia, the OIC took a step Awards because at its last conference in dah in December, the OIC hinted that if the as embargo on Bosnia were not inted by the cime of Jan. 15, the organisation's members hid act on their own to send arms to Bosnia. at was an empty threat - because of enormous stical obstacles — but there was not even an pty threat this time. Yet it can be said that this evity is an improvement because the OIC is, at t. being honest with itself and the rest of the rid; and that is not an inconsiderable achieveof for the 21st conference. At that meeting, the visation accepted the fact that it can talk but it cannot do anything. In other words, idual Muslim countries can act sometimes not the grouping of the governments of the d's one billion Muslims. And that is a major actor in world politics, of which it may take time for the rest of the world to become ;, simply because the international media virtually ignored what went on in Karachi.

PABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

DANIAN PAPERS Sunday discussed in their editorials the ous achievements in Jordan under His Majesty King in's rule over the past four decades. The four decades of the rule, which are celebrated today by the Jordanian people, een full of accomplishments at all levels and in all domains, Al Ra'i daily. The Kingdom's progress has been achieved in strides in the fields of health, education, agriculture, social opment, economy and above all in bolstering the nation's ence through the strengthening of the Jordanian Armed embled the countrymen to protect the gains and achieveits. Perhaps Jordan's option for democracy and political plism was the major achievement of Jordan under King on, enabling the country to serve as a model for other Arab said the daily. The Jordanian people have reason to be of the progress achieved over the past 40 years and are the anniversary which reminds them of the King's evours and his success in serving his nation, the paper added.

I that unniversary of King Hussein's assumption of his intional powers stands out as one of the most cherished rsaries to be commemorated by the Jordanian people who their leader continued health and happiness and success in cadership of his country and nation.

DERATION in pan-Arab and international policies are insic characters of King Hussein who has just completed four edes of rule in Jordan, said columnist Taher Al Udwan in Al tour. The writer said that moderate as he is in handling nical, pan-Arab and international affairs, King Hussein is also and unrelenting in matters requiring quick action and when matters concern higher national interest. Despite the meaere rices of the Kingdom, King Hussein has succeeded in expending it into a modern state through his diligence and his count of efforts, said the writer. He recalled the King's Prous stand during the Gulf war. The Arab-Israeli conflict warious crises that plagued the Arab Nation over the past lectides and noted that the Monarch has crowned all this by ing his countrymen along the path of democracy and political my parts of the Arab World. The writer said that all political 1:3 — leftists or conservatives alike — are in agreement about it should support for the King's wise leadership and

Weekly Political Pulse

Efforts, concessions needed to keep momentum of talks

Palestinian spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi described the ongoing peace talks in Washington between the Palestinian and the Israeli delegations as having effectively entered a "qualitatively different

phase."

"This is really the beginning," Ashrawi added at the conclusion of the Friday session marking the end of the first week of peace talks. Palestinians attribute the new peace thrust to new Israeli attitudes and to the more active U.S. involvement in the peace

Having attained this new sense of direction in the bilateral peace parleys, it is incumbent on all parties to maintain the momentum generated by the new spirit dominating now in the Washington talks. Israel has made several significant moves, albeit ones that by and large rectify long-standing blunders. Nevertheless, the fact that the Rabin government has taken these corrective measures should develop a need to nurture them. There will come a time when the Palestinian side will be asked to respond in-kind, or at least partially in-kind, even though what the Palestinians may be called upon to concede would be some of their legitimate rights to wage an armed intifada. In other words, as a quid pro quo for the Israeli rectification of past and continuing violations of the Fourth Geneva Convention, the Palestinians will probably end up being asked to stop or decrease the tempo of their uprising, something that is not called for by international law or human rights treaties.

Still, for political reasons, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) may very well see it as in their interest and as serving the cause of peace to yield on this score as well by offering some positive gestures in response to the latest Israeli confidencebuilding measures (CBM). The Palestinian side has several options in this regard, most of which would not irrevocably hurt the intifada or render their bargaining position weaker. The Palestinians have a stake in keeping alive the so-called "qualitatively different phase," that the bilateral talks have reached at the end of the first week of peace negotiations. The Palestinians also have a stake in promoting additional Israeli moves that hopefully will include the 400 Palestinians deportees.

Even more significant is the cultivation of a new climate that could produce more substantive results for the Palestinians. No doubt, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher would be pushing for some kind or another of Palestinian response as a condition for applying continuous pressure on the Rabin government. But as long as the case of the 400 Palestinian expellees is not resolved, the PLO would have difficulties introducing CBMs of its own. That is also have difficulties introducing CBMs of its own. That is why the implementation of the early resolution on the banished Palestinians is a must if for no other reason than to strengthen the hand of the Palestinian moderates.

There is a potential agreement to create three working groups, one of which will deal with the issue of land. This is a big breakthrough in itself since never before has Israel accepted to even touch upon the issue of Palestinian rights to their territories. This is an added reason why the PLO has a vested interest in keeping the balance of power in Israel in favour of the Labour Party. The Palestinians are not likely to receive these kinds of concessions from any Likud-formed government.

All in all, therefore, the talks between Israel and the PLO have indeed entered a new threshold. Any Palestinian investment in this new stage of peace talks would be more than worth it. It takes courage to come up with Palestinian CBMs, but the PLO cannot afford not to have the necessary strength of conviction to promote the continuation of the good start registered during the first week of the resumed ninth session of the bilateral talks.

Clinton may run late, but he runs deftly

By Laurence McQuillan Reuter

WASHINGTON - In his first three months as president, Bill Clinton has shown he likes to think before he speaks, enjoys performing for television cameras and refuses to worry about being

At 46, Mr. Clinton is the thirdyoungest president in U.S. history after Theodore Roosevelt and John Kennedy. With calculated planning he has developed a charismatic style that excites crowds and works well on TV.

Virtually every time he answers a question, this president pauses to formulate and answer - in sharp contrast to former President George Bush's tendency to blunt out responses in a fractured syntax he then tried to fix as he

Take the second day of Clinton's presidency. At an Oval Office photo session, he was asked about lifting the ban on homosexuals in the military and did not respond. Ten minutes later he went looking for the questioner, to provide a considered response that dominated television news that night.

Not only does Mr. Clinton think before he speaks, he thinks before he acts — prompting some critics to say he takes too long to

decide on action. 'These close to him cay Mr. Clinton likes informal consultation sessions to thrash out a pending decision or discuss what was right or wrong about a strategy. attends most such sessions.

The cabinet room is small, filled with a large table and tall leather chairs. The Roosevelt named for a painting of Teddy Roosevelt on horseback on the walls, offers an informal setting them directly.

for more people.

them directly.

He jokingly told reporters: "I

"He likes to take in everyone's ideas," said one White House official. "Then he goes back to his office and mulls it over before

deciding."
Last Friday, mindful of pending media assessments of his first 100 days in office — the 100th day will be today - Mr. Clinton joined about two dozen aides in the Roosevelt Room.

'It was more of an inventory of ongoing initiatives," said White House Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers. "Although there was some discussion... about what lessons can we learn in a constructive way about the last 100

For his day-to-day work, Mr. Clinton uses the Oval Office and an adjacent study, but has a private office in the White House family quarters so he can work at any hour. Aides say he does not need

much sleep, rarely more than five or six hours a night. But when he pushes too hard, circles appear under his eyes and aides suggest he get some rest. Mr. Clinton is the first president to be shaped by television as a child and now he is trying to use

it to shape the way others view him. His family bought its first TV set in 1956, when he was a nine years old. It arrived in time for him to watch his hero, John Kennedy, in

his unsuccessful hid to become the Democratic vice presidential nominee at that year's nominating convention.
On his way to the White

"The seat of power has moved from the cabinet room to the ous television guest appearances, Roosevelt Room," said a senior including a saxophone-playing administration official who stint on the "Arsenio Hall" late night show and several visits to MTV, the rock video cable chan-

Not surprisingly then, he takes Room, just down the ball and to the airwaves frequently as president, convinced he can court Amercians better if he can talk to

don't need you people. I've got Larry King." the television talk

show host. Perhaps the biggest change in the White House as it moved to Mr. Clinton from Mr. Bush has been time itself.

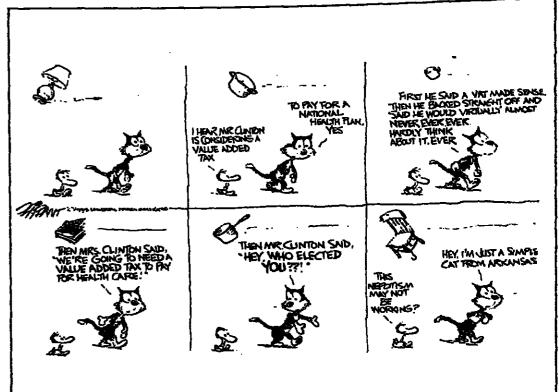
The president does sport a wristwatch - but many assume it most be purely ornamental.

He was punctual when he took the oath of office at noon on Jan. 20 as prescribed by law. But since then he has lived by "Clinton time," which generally means no one really knows when he'll show up for scheduled events.

Examples of presidential tardi-

ness are numerous. He was two hours late for a White House reception to honour the creators of the U.S. holocaust museum and 13 minutes late for his father-in-law's funeral in Scranton, PA.

Those around him have become philosophical about Mr. Clinton's attitude towards time. "He gets really involved and focused on what he's doing," says Ms. Myers. "He's not the kind of guy who keeps looking at his watch."





LETTERS

40 years of achievements

To the Editor:

It happened exactly four years ago. Yet I remember this special

occasion as if it were yesterday.

His Majesty King Hussein was paying a visit to the Jordan Press Foundation and I was among the JPF family members to greet His

His Majesty arrived at about 7 in the evening at the Al Ra'i building and all hurried to see and congratulate him. The editorial board members greeted the King and led his way to the editorial

room. Unfortunately, I had barely had time to have a glimpse of him. I was really disappointed and frustrated.

Ten minutes later, His Majesty came back. This time I had made my mind up: at any cost I will shake hands with His Majesty. With this in mind I rushed to the front line. The King shook hands with many people and, at last, I got the wished-for opportunity to shake hands with one of the wisest peace-loving

opportunity to shake hands with one of the wisest peace-loving leaders in the world. It was a moment I will always cherish and about which I will always talk with pride.

Since I landed at Marka Airport 12 years ago I witnessed tremendous progress in Jordan. Every day changes were taking place, in all aspects of life in the country: universities, sports facilities, hospitals, industrial estates, vocation centres, to mantion just come warm springing up

places, airports, to mention just some, were springing up. I also witnessed the economic recession of 1989 and the wave of returnees in the wake of the Gulf war. Under all these difficult circumstances Jordan managed to raise its flag high, with all its

limited resources.

Even though I belong to one of the biggest Third World countries, I envy Jordan's accomplishments. Almost all facilities are available for the development of the human being in the

How were all these achieved? There is no doubt it in my mind now. I am fully aware that all the progress is entirely due to the wise guidance of His Majesty

On this 40th anniversary of assuming his constitutional power, I pray to the Almighty to bless this peace-loving, wise leader with a long, long life, to enable him to lead this beautiful country and its wonderful people and keep it an oasis of peace.

Rajan Thonipurakal,

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused

Yemen

(Continued from page 1)

election commission, the YSP, which governed South Yemen before unification, won 56 of Parliament's 301 seats.

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IN ARKANIAS

The president's party obtained 121 seats and the Islamic Party Al Islah secured 62.

It was the first multi-party parliamentary election in Yemen and the first on the Arabian Persian first on the Arabian Peninsula. A new government is to be formed in the coming days.

Jordanians

(Continued from page 1)

tics team, trailed red, white and green smoke, the colours of the Jordanian flag.
Missile and artillery units were

also put an display, including an old field cannon used in the Great Arab Revolt.

King Hussein, with Prince Hassan sitting in the back, rode an open jeep through the parade ground at the conclusion of the show, waving to the cheering

Most buildings in Amman were draped with giant flags and lit with strings of coloured lights. Schools, businesses and government offices closed for the national holiday.

Thousands lined main streets of Amman to cheer a festive parade of the vehicles after the formal ceremony ended.

All governorates in Jordan held various celebrations to mark the occasion.

King Hussein received congragulatory cables of the occasion Cables came from Sultan Qaboos Ben Said of Oman, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh, Emperor Akihito of Japan, U.S. President Bill Clinton, Indonesian President Suharto, Indian President Shankar Dayal Sharma and Italian President Oskar Luigi.

The King also received congratulations from Director General of the Arab Labour Organisation (ALO) Bakr Mohammad Rasoul, secretaries general of Jordanian parties, presidents of universities.

tribal chiefs and camp elders. The Homentmen and the Watani Sporting Clubs marked the occasion by holding a celebration at the Homentmen Club premises. The celebration included sports and cultural events held under the patronage of Sharifa Zein Bint Nasser.

East Jerusalemites could vote

(Continued from page 1)

party, told Israel Radio Sunday

that granting East Jerusalemites a vote in autonomy elections would create a dangerous precedent." "It's another unilateral concession to the Arabs from a government

which is becoming more and more left-wing," Mr. Katzav said. Mr. Rabin said meanwhile Israel's peace deal with Egypt set it the difficult task of how to lorge peace

with the Arabs without returning all territories it seized in the 1967 war. The Labour Party leader, in remarks broadcast by Israel Radio Sunday, told visiting French Jews that he regretted the precedent set when Israel returned all of the Sinai desert as part of its 1979 peace treaty with

Egypt.
"All we are trying to do today is

centimetre," he added.

Egypt."
In Washington, Palestinian spokes-

share information on colonisation with us," Dr. Ashrawi said. Israel

(Continued from page 1)

These days, in a rapidly changing world order, he foresees upheaval if the peace talks with Israel fail and if Arab states do not move towards democracy, respect for human rights and tackle the problems of mushrooming populations, dwindling resources and widespread poverty.

King Hussein has launched a prog-

"The greatest achievement in these 40 years that we have lived through, through all the setbacks ... is the last four years ... and our return to democracy and parliamentary life,"

to lay firm foundations for the future ... and maybe transform Jordan into a beacon of hope in the region.

Arabs will remain a broken people," King Hussein said.
The British-educated Hussein inherited a Kingdom arbitrarily sum-moned into existence from the wilder-

grandfather Abdullah, a leader of the Arab Revolt against the Turks in

Syria, Jordan, Lebanon — and the Palestmians in the territories but in no way to return to the price we paid for the peace with Egypt," Mr. Rabin

ies we conquered in the six-day war must be returned up until the last

States plans to regularly brief Palestinians on Israeli settlements in the

Great survivor against all odds

versed anything.
"The sadness comes from crises that affected this region, where one could see a disaster in the making but lacked the ability to influence matters

ness between Saudi Arabia and Pales-tine by the British in 1921 for his

World War I.

When King Hussein succeeded his Receives of his people. These days, father Talal, who abdicated in 1932 few Arab leaders command the

"Our struggle is how to achieve peace without repeating the prece-dent of the price for peace with

man Hanan Ashrawi said the United

agreed to the information-sharing,

daughter of the Prophet Moham-"I've never taken any decision political dexterity he needed to stay in

ramme of democratic reform in Jordan which he hopes will serve as a model for other countries in a region where political pluralism is in little

the King said.
"I think we've taken the right steps

"Others still look at us with suspi-cion and regard this as a luxury they cannot afford. But without this, the

because of illness, British supported genuine affection and respect of their Jordan was the last remnant of the old people that he does.

without giving it as much of the thought that was available at the time," he said. "And so, given the circumstances, I couldn't have re-

in a way that could have prevented them happening time and again."

be released

"To my great regret, a precedent was set that for peace all the territor-

occupied territories.
"The Americans have promised to

order in the Middle East, ringed by states that were bostile at that time -Saudi Arabia, Syria, Egypt, Israel. But King Hussein, by necessity, matured quickly and developed the

> He survived assassination attempts and coup plots — including poison in his nose drops — several Arab-Israeli conflicts and his 1970-71 war against the Palestinians who challenged the

Monarchy. when he was 16. His revered grandfather, King Abdullah, was assassinated by a Palestinian outside the Al Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem on July 20, 1951, after he had annexed the West Bank, part of historic Palestine.

After slaying the King, the assassin fired a shot at Hussein. The bullet ricocheted off a medal he wore over

It was a traumatic introduction to the bloody realities of political life in the Middle East, where changes of government invariably came through assassinations or coups.

But by his own admission, "the narrowest escape from death I have narrowest escape from death 1 have ever had," happened Nov. 11, 1958. Two Syrian MiG-17 fighters inter-cepted King Hussein's plane as he flew to Switzerland for a holiday. The British pilot, his longtime friend Wing Commander Jock Dalgliesh, dived to

ground level and outflew the jets.
King Hussein, a born soldier
courageous and cautious in turn, inherited his grandfather's pan-Arab ambitions and has always trod his own pathy, usually to the dismay, and often hostility, of others. As the man in the middle of the

nothing else. His refusal to join the U.S.-led coalition against Iraq after the 1990 invasion of Kuwait, favouring diplomacy over military action, left him dangerously isolated internationally.

activeve peace with the Arab states — she told reporters, though she did not Syria, Jordan, Lebanon — and the say what kind of information would

Israeli settlements in the occupied territories over Palestinian protests have raised the hackles of both Washington and the Palestinians, who see the colonies as an obstacle to ring out a peace agreement. Dr. Ashrawi voiced new optimism

over the ninth round of the peace talks. 'Until now, there have been no negotiations, They will take off in this session," Dr. Ashrawi said. After three meetings last week, alestinians and Israelis agreed to

form three teams to negotiate land and water issues, Palestinian autonomy and human rights in the occupied Israel has also agreed for the first time to allow Palestinians not from the occupied territories to participate

She said Palestinian experts Camil-le Mansur and Ahmad Al Khalidi would join the teams negotiating the land-and-water and autonomy issues. Meanwhile, two members of the Palestinian delegation, Saed Erakat and Sami Kilani, went to Tunis Friday to brief Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leaders on the peace process in Washington, Dr. Ashrawi

in the talks, Dr. Ashrawi said.

day, when talks resume, she added. A U.S. official said Friday that Washington held a generally more upbeat assessment of the talks. There are some things that are happening," he said. "It's too early to call it a breakthrough."

And Mr. Husseini, the leading Palestinian negotiator, also was more optimistic, saying there is a "marked difference" between Mr. Rabin and his predecessor Shamir.

Mr. Husseim, one of the most prominent figures in the occupied erritories, has said Mr. Shamir was "incapable of adapting to the new world order. His ideas were out of

Mr. Rabin, however, is able to

approach the current situation "with more intelligence," Mr. Husseini said, calling Mr. Rabin "pragmatic," but at the same time "a tough negotiator and good player."

Mr. Husseini defended his delegation's record. "One has to remember the situation we were in" at the start

of the talks that began in October 1991 in Madrid. "Look where we are Referring to Israel's agreement to allow the return of 30 Palestinian exiles, he said, "for 25 years, we have

not been able to even mention the deportations issue." But "today, thanks to our struggles, we have succeeded in ending the Israeli policy and "we are expectold AFP. ing the return home of all the exiles,"

The two will return before Mon-

Ex-premier's suicide stuns France

(Continued from page 1)

ernment, due Monday, was also likely to be delayed. Mr. Beregovoy gave no hint of his intention on Saturday. He bought flowers for his wife and

calculy went through his routine as mayor, meeting trade unionists for a Labour Day reception and handing out prizes at a local cycling race.

He then drove to a leafy canal bank where he liked to take walks with his wife and asked his driver and bodyguard to leave him alone for a moment. He shot himself through the temple with his bodyguard's pistol at 6:20 p.m. (1620 GMT). A doctor at Nevers hospital told Reuters the bullet went through his head.

Firm believer in democracy

(Continued from page 1)

cracy and growing and greater respect for human rights and I hope pluralism as it evolves in the years to come." he said, looking. hack.

Analysts said the King's experience of seeing oppressive regimes that crumbled and autocratic leaders toppled has convinced him that Jordan must become a moderate, stable democracy to survive.

The shock of 1989 anti-covernment

riots catalysed the democratic pro-Arab-israeli conflict, he could do cess. The first multi-party elections in three decades are planned in autumn. King Hussein took the throne in 1952 a year after he witnessed the assassination of his grandfather King Abdullah. The British-educated soldier has since survived two ears with Israel, civil war with Palestinians, clashes with Syria, and numerous attempts to Kill and topple him.

enfolded his large Palestinian population. He now hopes to turn years of uneasy co-existence with Israel into

full-fledged peace.
"I think his biggest success has been to build a nation where none existed before." Rami Khouri, a Palestinian-Jordanian writer close to the palace, told Reuters.

"His biggest challenge is to see institutional changes that will sustain that nation," said Mr. Khouri, who sparked an uproar among Jordanians last year by saying they must consider a future after King Hussein.

His column prompted a flood of angry letters from citizens. King Hussein's strongest card his immense popularity — may also hinder him. Jordanians fear a future without him.

Political groups who for years operated underground yearn for democracy but fear the King is the only one holding the process together. Others see democratic institutions as no sub-He has co-opted enemies by put-ting them in positions of power and stitute for the only ruler they have

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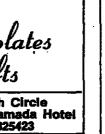
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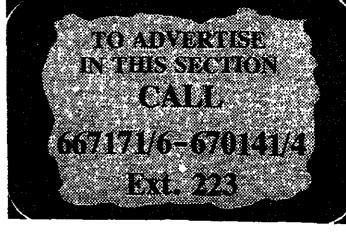




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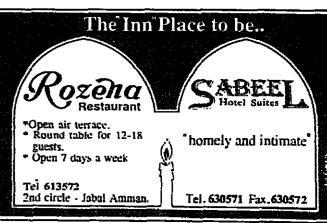
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Restaurant & Tapas Bar International Dishes & Spanish Specialities Open Lunch & Dinner Jebel Amman - 3rd Circle

Sea Hero wins 119th Kentucky Derby; Zafonic wins 2,000 Guineas in record time

Sea Hero darted to the inside and sped past six horses just before the stretch run to win the 119th Kentucky Derby by 21/2 lengths Saturday.

Prairie Bayou, the 9-2 favourite - the longest odds ever for a Kentucky Derby favourite - was second by just a head over Wild Gale, part of a seven-horse mutual field.

Sea Hero, may have surprised the punters and commentators but trainer Mack Miller says he knew the horse would enjoy racing in the cool weather of Louis-ville.

"The moment he got to a cool climate he blossomed, started eating again and was back to his old self," the 71-year-old Miller told a news conference.

Sea Hero set aside three recent poor showings in the heat of Florida to win America's most prestigious race.
"He just didn't like Florida.

ter was sixtn-placed 36-1 long shot Jig Time in 1958. "I really never thought I'd win a Debry. My time was running

The 19-strong field of three-year-olds for the 11/4-mile race was seen by many as one of the

weakest in recent years. Sea Hero's jockey Jerry Bailey said a key factor in the victory was his horse's ability to cut inside a tightly-bunched group of horses as they approached the stretch for the charge past the famed twin spires of Churchill

"It was kind of like the Red Sea. When I got to it (the wall of horses), it kind of parted for me. he said.

Sea Hero is owned by 85-yearold Paul Mellon, whose Rockeby Farm in Virginia has turned out dozens of top horses, including

1971 Epsom Derby winner Mill ler, whose only other Derby star-

The closest he had come to winning the Derby in three previous attempts was in 1969 when Arts and Letters was beaten by a neck by Majestic Prince.

In Newmarket, England, French-trained Zafonic cruised from last to first and then romped away to a record-breaking victory Saturday in the second classic race of the English horse racing season, the \$176,000 2.000

Zafonic's time of 1 minute 35.32 seconds was the fastest in the 185-year history of the presti-

Rated the 5-6 favourite by the bookmakers, Zafonic placed last of the 15 runners at half way in the straight one-mile (1.6 kilometre) race with veteran jockey Lester Piggott leading the field on Silver Wizard.

Piggott set a fast pace and most

of the favoured horses could not keep in touch. Zafonic had no problems.

Jockey Pat Eddery moved the 3-year-old colt to the outside of the field and moved the horse into overdrive with 400 yards to

Barathea, ridden by South African Michael Roberts, tried to go with Zafonic and at one stage looked like getting close.

But Eddery pulled further away and Zafonic, owned by Saudi Arabian Prince Khaled Abdulla, was 31/2 lengths clear of 10-1 shot Barathea at the winning post with 66-1 Bin Ajwaad, rid-den by Bruce Raymond, third. Silver Wizard placed sixth.

'He ran as straight as a gunbarrel," said Eddery, who now has ridden 11 classic winners.

"The pace was very fast and the ground was definitely in the horse's favour. He showed he was a very good 2-year-old last year and now has trained on."

Seles attacker is charged

Graf in tears over rival's stabbing

HAMBURG (Agencies) - A 38-year-old east German, who stabbed world number one tennis player Monica Seles Friday has been charged with attempted murder, police said Saturday.

Police only identified her attacker as Gunter P. The attack came as Seles was seated during a changeover in her match at the women's tournament here.

She is still recovering in hospital from a minor wound that is expected to keep her out of tennis for between one to four months.

The attacker, who slipped past security guards with a hidden knife, later claimed he had stabbed Seles because he wanted to help Germany's Steffi Graf recapture the number one spot. He said he had not wanted to

kill the Yugoslav player. The stabbing has cast a shadow over the tournament, and although Graf is now just one

No. 87 defeats Sampras



World No. 1 women's tennis ace Monica Seles collapse after being stabbed in her back during the Hamburg Open Tournament (AFP

match away from making tennis history, she was in no mood to celebrate Saturday after beating Jana Novotna to reach the final.

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

TOKYO (R) - Former England striker Gary Lineker scored his

first goal in Japan Sauday to lift Nagoya Grampus eight to a 2-1 victor over Italy's Lazio in a friendly. Lineker, the biggest name

in the new Japanese Soccer League which starts May 15, headed

home in the 74th minute after a corner from Brazilian midfielder

Jorge Antonio Putinatti. "It was a good game, I thought we

played ver well." Lineker said. "It's nice to score in front of a big

ATLANTA (AFP) - Dutchman Jacco Eltingh produced a shock

when he beat world number one Pete Sampras 7-6 (7-5), 6-4 in the semi-final of the \$300,000 Atlanta Tournament Saturday. Eltingh,

ranked 87 in the world, registered the biggest win of his career

with a fine serve and volley game on clay in Georgia. "I wasn't nervous," said a delighted Eltingh. "I knew how I wanted to play.

and I gained confidence because of Pete's difficulty in returning

my service." Meanwhile, Sweden's Stefan Edberg faced Sergio

Bruguera of Spain in the final of the Madrid Open tennis tournament. Edberg, first seed here and number three in the

world, had an easy victory Saturday over fifth seed Emilio Sanchez Vicario, despite rain stopping play for two hours midway through the first set. Bruguera, winner of the Monte Carlo Open

last Monday, beat fellow Spaniard Tomas Carbonell 7-5, 6-1, helped by Carbonell twisting an ankle at the end of the first set.

Sanchez Vicario replaces Seles in Rome

ROME (R) - World number three Arantxa Sanchez Vicario has been drafted in to replace Monica Seles as the top seed in the Italian Open women's tennis tournament which starts Monday.

Seles, the world number one, is in hospital in Hamburg after

being stabbed by a spectator Friday during a tournament. Many

players view the Rome tournament — monopolised by Gabriela Sabatini in recent years — as a key part of their preparations for

the French Open later in May. Her role as heroine of the Roman

fans is likely to be challenged by Martina Navratilova, making

what will almost certainly be her last Italian Open appearance.

Lineker scores first goal in Japan

Graf, in tears after rival Monica Seles was stabbed by a spectator, said Saturday no security measures could protect players from attack. "We are in the spotlight." Graf

said after beating Czech Jana Novotna in the semifinals the day after Seles was stabled on centre court at the Handburg Tennis Tournament. Graf said "It hurts me even

more to know that this happened in Germany and that it is a German guy and apparently he's a fan of mine.

"That makes it hurt a lot Graf had visited the hospital

before her semi-final and said that Seles' overriding mood was one of depression. But Graf insisted that her rival should be able to bounce and continue her career.

"She's a very strong minded person. The only way to get back is when she is physically ready. She has to go back on court immediately.

You have to go on with your life because this is something we all have to live with. It can happen any day and we really have to keep that in mind. It's the way we live and the price we

As for future tournament. Graf said "I hope this won't change the atmosphere. We've been put up on a stage and need to be close to the people who watch. We should keep things the same way."

Graf will become the first player to win a tournament seven consecutive times if she beats Spain's Arantxa Sanches Vicario in the final.

Esther Seles, Monica's mother. was moved by tears by a crowd of 200 Serbs who gathered outside the tennis centre chanting Monica's name. "Thank you for coming. I'm

sorry Monica is not able to come here. It's impossible to visit her in the hospital." she told them before breaking down in tears.

Meanwhile, the men's world number one Pete Sampras expressed his disgust at the attack.

The American, who is playing in the semi-finals of the Atlanta tournament, said "I was sickened by the whole thing. I was watching TV and saw_it_all. I was in shock. I hope her injury is not serious.

"I-have never had any death threat against me but I have heard that (Croatia's Goran) Iva nisevic and Seles had. I feel comfortable playing anywhere in the world."

As for Seles' attacker being a fan of Graf, Sampras made his feelings clear.

"I have a hard time believing that. It makes me sick. Tennis is supposed to be fun."

The possibility that Seles might bring her career to an early end was being considered by Gerarde Smith, head of the Women's Tennis Association. Saturday.

"We'd all be disappointed if she came to that decision.. I'm sure it's gone through Monica's mind and the mind of her parents whether they should subject her to this anymore. Hopefully, they'll make the right decision for

SOCCER ROUNDUP

Boksic hat-trick takes Marseille towards title

PARIS (R) - A hat-trick from Croatian striker Alen Boksic took European Cup finalists Marseille one step nearer a record fifth consecutive French title as they romped to a 5-0 victory over Strasbourg Saturday.

Boksic opened the scoring after just five minutes and Marseille had already wrapped up the match by halftime with Franck Sauzee and German forward Rudi Voeller making it 3-0.

But Boksic, a potential match-winner when Marseille meet AC Milan in the European Cup final in Munich May 26, was far from

He added two more goals in the 66th and 89th minutes to take his tally for the season to 18, matching Xavier Gravelaine of Caen as the league's joint-leading scorer.

Marseille retain a two-point lead over Monaco who laboured to a

2-1 home win over lowly Valenciennes with a 76th minute penalty from Youri Djorkaeff. Monaco opened the scoring thanks to German striker Juergen Klinsmann's 16th goal of the season in the eighth minute but Jorge Burruchaga, who played for Argentina against Klinsmann in the 1990

World Cup final, equalised seven minutes later. Paris St. Germain, a point behind Monaco, stayed in the race with an excellent 2-1 away win over Auxerre in a match between this season's two losing UEFA Cup semifinalists.

Real Madrid go top of Spanish league: Real Madrid, spurred by their quickest goal of the season, went top of the Spanish Soccer First Division Saturday.

Real romped to a 4-0 away win over Real Oviedo, but their reign as leaders may last only 24 hours if Barcelona beat fellow catalans

Espanol Sunday.

The Madrid side had an ideal start with their season's fastest goal when Emilio Butragueno drove home a pass from Fernando Hierro

in the second minute. Michel Gonzalez set up the second and third goals, Hierro heading

home a pass in the 37th minute and Ivan Zamorano scoring with a powerful cross-shot in the 64th. Zamorano wrapped up victory with his second strike in the 89th

minute, easing in another pass from Michel. Barcelona, equal on 46 points but ahead on goal difference before

the weekend, face an away match against Espanol, who have lost their last three games. Rangers clinch fifth consecutive title: Rangers equalled their club

record of five Scottish League titles in a row when Gary McSwegan scored one minute after the interval to give them a 1-0 Premier Division triumph at Airdrie Saturday.

The champions, who won the title five times between 1927 and 1931, are now 12 points ahead of second-placed Aberdeen, who lost I-0 at Celtic, with four games each to go.

Rangers' record 43rd league title puts them another step nearer the treble they last achieved in 1978. They have won the League Cup and meet Aberdeen in the Scottish F.A. Cup final May 29.

McSwegan, leading the attack in the absence of injured 49-goal star Ally McCoist, lobbed home a superb cross by former England striker Mark Hateley. McCoist will be out for the rest of the season after breaking a leg in Scotland's 5-0 World Cup defeat in Portugal in

Frank McAvennie scored after only eight minutes to give Celtic both points and leave them just one point behind Aberdeen in third

Forest say farewell: Brian Clough's legendary 18-year career with Nottingham Forest came to a bitter end Saturday, as his men here relegated from the Premier League after losing 2-0 to Sheffield United.

Their faint hopes of avoiding the drop were dashed by Glyn Hodges' first half strike and Brian Gayle's coup de grace at the city Clough had announced his retirement earlier this week, but it was

a desperately sad way for Britain's most colourful manager to quit the. The handling of his retirement by club officials has bitterly

criticised by his family Saturday. News of his decision to leave was hastily announced last Monday after adverse press comment, making for an ignominious exit.

But there has no controversy about the hero's welcome awaiting him before the late home match of his career.

Clough, who has brought Forest the championship, two European Cups and four League Cups in his stay with the club, has surrounded by photographers and television crews as he emerged from the

He stood for a moment before halking out to a standing ovation. Supporters then ran to the front of the main stand for one last handshake and kiss from Clough.

Manchester United have already put the English Premier League trophy under lock and key at their Old Trafford ground — but they

have not won it yet. Favourites United can clinch the inaugural Football Association (F.A.) Premier League crown Sunday if their only remaining challengers Aston Villa fail to pick up more than one point at home to relegation-haunted Oldham.

United are four points ahead of Villa and with a far superior goal difference with two games to go.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY MAY 3, 1993 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carrell Righter Foundation

22) Many conditions that can be GENERAL TENDENCIES: A very helpful to you come into the day when nothing carefully planopen after a tense early morning ned seems to work out as ton wished. Avoid depression or annoyance of obstacles and delays situation so go after what you want to have public acclaim. LIBRA: (September 23 to October and continue to line tune all your 22) Your environment can stand assets so they are in a state of

ARIES: (March 21 to April 14) Consider what your most imagination wishes are and how they can best be made a part of your everyday existence, then tonight get off alone, consider your part of a

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Early be careful of a financial situation but later you can do what is expected of you career wise with quite a flair, tonight go after per-

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) A fine day for arranging all aspects of a trip that can expand your present success after which get into worldly activities and make them work

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Perform whatever your tasks in a playful mood and it will

please those you are dealing with while later be off to some new LEO: (July 22 August 21) You now have very accurate hunches what

you can do this day to add to your present efficiency and gain others goodwill, tonight enjoy the company of a friend.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September

ary 19) You now have a very good day to analyse your assets and wide finbilities and to devise a new and better budgeting of your various

some extra colour, music or beauty

there so make a point to consider, what will enhance your surround.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to Novem:

ber 21) Avoid a harsh praencal

problem early in the morning their you will be able to spend the rest of

the day enjoying yourself with con-

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 fo

December 21) The early part of the

day brings an unfortunate con-frontation with a partner but later

you can have a happy time at your.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to

January 20) Get rid of a private

worry then you will be able to do,

shopping, errands, getting in sup-plies, making voits.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to Febru:

whatever you wish in the world of

residence with your family.

ings and improve them.

genial companions.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) After a morning when home and outside conditions can irk, you have have a fine time for going after what you personally want with confidence and courage.

THE BETTER HALF, By Glasbergen GLASBERGEN .

"I didn't sleep last night. I was kept awake by the sound of wrinkles growing on my forehead!"

TUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD CAME by Herry Arrold Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words, SOMYS **RUGPO** GORUME WHAT BOARDING HOUSE GOSSIP USED TO START WITH. THEIRE Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon. Print answer here:

Jumbles: IRONY JOUST NOTIFY CURFEW

Answer: What the chiropractor and his wife were working on-A JOINT RETURN

THE Daily Crossword by Matthew Higgins 10 insult 14 Above 15 Medieval trading 19 Long poem 20 Three-way joint 21 Port or sherry 22 Bugs Bunny favorite 24 Coin 25 Gastropods 26 Wisconsin city 29 Deranged one 30 Call up 31 "-- of two Jime 32 Fabric border 35 Tiresome one

37 Exposed
38 Bristle
39 Lend — (assist)
40 Effect producer
41 Fireplace Items
43 Poetic place
44 Composed of
standardized
units
46 Highest policy suffix 8 Inquire 9 Repeals 10 Himalayan 11 Shoemaker of the Day? 12 Out of control

46 Highest point 47 Stroller 48 Food 49 Fuss 13 Treaties
18 Twisted string
23 Author Kingsle
24 Pat's partner
25 Like 2 barrer

36 Fithy abodes 37 Exposed 38 Bristle

the Day? 56 Writer Jer 57 External

4 Govt. gp. 5 Hallowed

56 Writer James — 25 Like a 25 Like 1 Sail supporter 2 Kitchen and 3 Thick cord 33 Gaelic 34 Encounter

40 Musical group 42 Food rish 43 Move quickly

49 Total recoipts

Yesterday's Puzzie Solved:

Peanuts

ONE FINGER WILL MEAN YOUR FAST BALL WHICH ISN'T VERY FAST ANYWAY.

TWO FINGERS WILL BE YOUR CURVE WHICH DOESN'T CURVE AT ALL ..



TUREE FINGERS



FOUR FINGERS



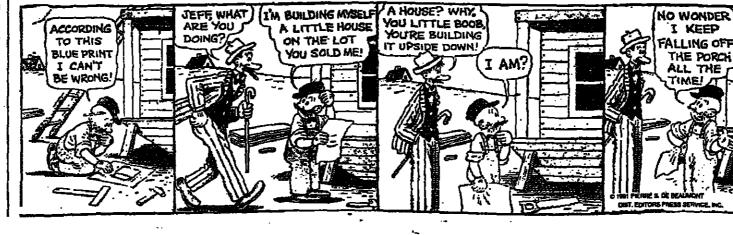
Andy Capp







Mutt'n'Jeff



GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF

FIRST THINGS FIRST

Both vulnerable. North deals. ♣ K Q 6 3 EAST WEST ♦ A J 7 5 ♥ 10 ♦ J 10 9 8 3 SOUTH SOUTH

. A 4 2 North East South 1 NT Pass 4 C Pass Pass South West

Opening lead: Five of & Bridge is a game for clear think-ers, but even the best of them can be dazzled by fool's gold. Attempting to mine those tressures might not stand up to the light of cold logic. Consider this hand from a pair

This was not a hand for transfer bids. Where North declared four hearts after South transferred at some level, East led the jack of dia-

monds, West grabbed the ace and

the spade shift was obvious. Three rounds of the suit forced North to ruff, and the defenders had to score the king of trumps to go with their three tricks in the pointed suits. At a number of tables South became declarer at the heart game.

Where West led a spade, three rounds of the suit would again have settled the issue. The problem arose at those tables where a club was led. Declarer won in hand with the ace and most, impressed with the possi-bility of discarding spades on dia-monds, led a diamond at trick two. That allowed West to win and shift

to spades, to defeat the game. Careful reasoning should have convinced declarer that it was right to go after trumps before dismonds—the finesse would have to succeed for the contract to have any chance. When the queen of hearts holds and East drops the ten, declarer should realize that the hand is unbeatable if trumps are 2-2, and repeat the finesse. When East shows out, there's no point in going after diamonds—declarer can't afford to allow dummy to be forced to ruff a

The only hope is to find clubs 3-3 So declarer should draw the last trump and cash the remaining high clubs. When the suit breaks, declarer can discard a pointed-suit loser and claim the contract.

Japan opening Saudi office | UAE opens to boost investment in Gulf | first trade

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Japan is opening an office in Saudi Arabia to boost investment in the oil-rich Gulf, Japanese officials have

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the Japan International Development Organisation, a semigovernment group, will open the office in the Red Sea port of Jeddah in June to deal with oil, gas and other industrial sectors, Japanese officials said.

"We believe it will contribute to promoting investment in Saudi Arabia," Shinji Okakura, economic director at the Japanese embassy in Riyadh told AFP by telephone.

The office will concentrate on Sandi Arabia but in the near future it could expand its activithis to all Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states," he said. Mr. Okakura said the Jeddah office was the first of its kind in the Gulf.

Saudi Arabia is an important country in the region. It has a wast market and it is one of the largest oil suppliers to Japan," he said, explaining why Saudi Ara-

"The office will also help

Japan is already among the main investors in the six-nation GCC, with assets of about \$3.5 billion mainly in the oil and gas industries. Around \$1.5 billion in direct investments are in Saudi

Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahram, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) -the six GCC members — are Japan's main crude oil suppliers, exporting about 2.7 million barrels per day (b/d) to Japan last

Japan's total oil imports stood at around 4.1 million b/d. The two traded \$35 billion worth of goods, making Japan the GCC's biggest single economic

Saudi Arabia meanwhile is Japan's biggest Gulf trade partner, with an exchange of \$15 billion in 1992, according to the Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO).

Japan has sought to boost relations with GCC countries in a bid to ensure stable crude supplies as it expects to rely more on Gulf "The office will also help oil. It sent an oil delegation to the saudi Arabia as a strengthen relations between the UAE this year and plans more project," he said.

missions to other GCC members. In turn, GCC states have been negotiating with Japan and other industrial countries to obtain technology through joint projects amid attempts to expand their industries and lessen reliance on

The Japanese ambassador in Riyadh, Hiroshi Ota, said in the Gulf press last mouth that four joint projects would be negotiated with Saudi Arabia, including one with the giant Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC).

A joint feasibility study is also underway to set up an oil refinery in Japan with a production capacity of 450,000 b/d, nearly 10 per cent to Japan's refining output. He said the refining project was discussed between Japanese officials and Saudi Oil Minister Hisham Nazer in January last

"Although the amount of investment and the cost for this joint venture have not been earmarked, both countries understand that Japan will secure a more stable source of oil from Saudi Arabia as a result of this

"The workers' status as masters of the socialist state must be guaranteed and their work respected," the People's Daily said in a front-page editorial.

ing class should change its thinking mode to meet the new situation as China converts from a planned economy to a socialist market economy," it said.
"We can never take the road

back to the old system," the editorial said, calling for deeper reforms and faster economic development.

It acknowledged that economic reform would adversely affect some labourers, but said that political and social stability could be assured if the majority of workers benefited.

On Tiananmen Square, the autures of the late chairman Mao Zedong and revolutionary leader Sun Yat-Sen for the holiday, where before portraits of Marx. Engels, Stalin and Lenin hung. At a May Day gathering in Peking, General Secretary Jiang tinue to play a leading role in the country's opening up and mod-

ernisation drives. "Chinese workers have advanced ideology, fine qualities and a good tradition," the official

The official China Daily reported recently that private enerprise now accounts for three-.fourths of China's service-sector and half of its commerce.

It said the country's estimated 15.3 million private businesses paid more than 20.3 billion yuan (\$3.5 billion) in taxes in 1992, up

Their output has been increasing

that private enterprise will account for 20 to 25 per cent of China's gross national product by the end of the century.

lieve the estimates are too conservative because official figures understate the present size of the

registered as "individual enterprises," often one-person or onefamily operations such as sidewalk clothing stalls, snack vendors and the like.

Also omitted are many large private companies that are reg-istered as subsidiaries of government companies or under some other disguise. Although the government has lifted many restrictions in recent months, private enterprises are still limited in the scope and kind of business they

Banks often refuse to loan money to private businesses and they have difficulty obtaining hard currencies. Many "black market banks" have sprung up in coastal cities to meet the needs of

region's arbitration centre

ABU DHABI (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) the Gulf's main trade and commercial post, Saturday opened the region's first trade arbitration centre.

Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce officials said the Abu Dhabi Commercial Conciliation and Arbitration Centre (ADCAC) provides a forum for international and local firms to settle trade isputes and avoid long and costcourt battles.

"It is an edifice of justice of which we can be proud," Sheikh Sultan Bin Khalifa Al Nahayan, honourary chairman of the Chamber of Commerce said.

"We see it as a transitional move for finding amicable and just settlements for disputes," Chamber of Commerce President Albaj Bin Abdulla Al Muhairby said in a speech read for him. UAE legal sources said ADCAC would relieve a backlog in the country's civil courts and lure Western business to the re-

It will apply UAE or other country's federal commercial laws to settle fraud cases, nondelivery of goods and other commercial disputes within six months unless the parties agree to

extend the period.

The UAE, considered the barometer of Gulf trade with the highest number of foreign firms and foreign trade in the region, has been under pressure from its main Western business partners to speed resolution of business

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce in July last year said a lack of trade arbitration facilities hampers the business climate for Americans in the GCC - Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, UAE, Bahrain, Oman and Qatar.

Air France announces \$605m loss

PARIS (AFP) — Air France Group suffered a consolidated loss of 3.266 billion francs (\$605 million) in 1992, the group has announced. That compared with losses of 685 million francs in 1991 and 717.2 million the previous year. The group said sublast year. It had indicated at the end of last year that it expected a sharply higher group loss for 1992, on the order of 3.2 billion francs. Air France said that the 1992 result included an exceptional provision of 723 million francs set aside in connection with group membership in the AGIRC-ARRCO system for supplementary retirement benefits for employees, "in the wake of the deterioration of the demographic balance" of the company retirement fund for ground staff. The sales of the group, consisting of the Air France-UTA and Air Inter airlines and of a number of subsidiaries (hotels, tourism, and related activities), dipped by 1.1 per cent last year, to 57.1 billion francs against 57.6 billion for

Third World economies told to go for private investment

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Highlevel finance officials from rich and poor countries Saturday urged developing countries to move ahead with economic reforms that would help attract increased private investment and offset scarcer official aid.

The Joint Development Committee of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank proposed a cata-logue of policy actions by governments and international institutions to boost the number of countries targeted by overseas investors "as quickly as

A "high level of investment in the private sector is important to sustainable economic growth in developing countries," including eastern Europe's economies in transition, the 24-nation panel

said in a communique.

It stressed the "complementary" but "crucial" role of private foreign flows and official development assistance (ODA), and recognised that for poorer

BERLIN (R) — Politicians and business leaders from over 20

countries plan to launch a watch-

dog group in Berlin this week to

fight large-scale corruption in

Calling itself Transparency In-

ternational, the group aims to

promote international standards

for fair trading and help world

business fight off pressure to grease outstretched palms.

tion and anger among govern-

ment leaders in many countries

over the impact of corruption and

has been taken at a time when the

general public, from Japan to

Italy, is demonstrating outrage at

"The decision reflects frustra-

government and world trade.

unable to attract private capital,

In the light of the recent stagnation of ODA flows, despite increased needs, the panel asked donor countries "to do their best to increase their aid as circumstances permit, particularly where it still falls short of 0.7 per cent of

The average ratio for the 22 top industrial donors at present is about 0.35 per cent, with the United States at less than 0.2 per cent of GNP, development officials attending the talks noted. French Finance Minister

Edmond Alphandery echoed the feelings of many Western ministers at the meeting when he stressed the budget problems facing many donor countries and called for increased recourse to private

"It would be illusory to rely primarily on bilateral contributors at this time," he said. The committee strongly arged the donors to ratify without delay

both business transactions and

to help people rise from poverty.

The launch of transparency In-

ternational comes at a time when

scandals over widespread illegal

rocked Italy and Japan, two

members of the Group of Seven

The collapse of the Bank of

leading industrialised nations.

nance aid," it said.

Transparency International aims

to fight corruption in business, trade

the World Bank's soft-loan affiliate, the International Development Association (IDA), main source of external finance for the poorest nations.

It also asked the IMF to com-plete by next November its work on a successor to ESAF (Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility) which provides balance of payments support on soft terms for these countries.

The panel - composed of finance or development ministers of industrial and developing countries - said foreign direct investment (FDI) was "the most valuable form of private external It was associated with access to

technical knowhow, managerial expertise and wider markets in the West.

Against this background, it voiced "increasing concern" ab-out the continued delays and "risk of breakdown" in the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations in Geneva.

A failure could entail "a down-ward spiral of increasing protectionism" and narrow the markets for goods from developing countries, reducing their incentive to liberalise their economies.

Although FDI in developing countries nearly doubled to around \$20 billion in the 1980s. private flows were concentrated in a small number of countries.

Nearly half went to Brazil, China, Hong Kong, Mexico and Singapore, and a dozen Latin American and East Asian countries accounted for about threequarters of the total, financial experts said.

The committee recognised this, but told Third World governments at large to do what was needed to create conditions attractive to foreign investors, including a stable political climate, sound economic management and a "legal and institutional framework which encourages investment without discrimina-

China calls on workers to adapt to market economy

PEKING (Agencies) — The dinese Communist Party Saturday issued a May Day call Karl Marx would never have foreseen: The working class must adapt to market economics and never return to socialist central planning.

"On the other hand, the work-

May Day is traditionally a maior holiday in China, but the tone of selebrations has changed in recent years, with politically charged rallies and military para-

NICOSIA (R) — Iran's central bank governor Mohammad Hos-sein Adeli has said the country

had "very desirable" foreign ex-

change reserves and its economy

was on track for a second year of

Mr. Adeli, painting a rosy pic-

ture of the economy at odds with

daily Iranian press reports, said in

remarks quoted by Iranian televi-

sion that Iran's hard cash revenue

yould rise to \$22 billion in the tranian year started March 21.

Hailing money reforms leading

to a convertible rival last month

as "an economic revolution and a

turning point in Iran's economic history". Mr. Adeli said foreign

exchange reserves were at a very desirable level and enough for

. He gave no figures but said the reserves were higher than in 1989. Iran had declared its re-

supporting the currency.

six per cent growth.

des giving way to family shopping trips and springtime outings to

thorities were displaying only pic-Zemin called on workers to "con-

press quoted him as saying.

17 per cent from 1991.

This policy will be permanent

and continuous. There are no doubts about this," Mr. Adeli said, adding that the Internation-

al Monetary Fund had officially

recognised the rival as a converti-

change earnings in the current

Iranian year would reach \$22

billion but gave no breakdown.

ages oil revenue at about \$17 billion, a figure termed over-

optinistic by some parliament deputies. Non-oil exports totalled \$2.9 billion last year.

International oil prices are relatively weak and a Plan and

Budget Organisation report printed in Tehran's Hamshahri

newspaper last month said oil

revenue in the nine months to Dec. 21 was some \$1.9 billion

The budget for the year envis-

Mr. Adeli said foreign ex-

ble currency

However, Western analysts be-

private economy.

They do not include businesses

than imports," he said.

in prices in the first 11 months of

Iran sees 6% economic growth

riyal was declared convertible on order to imports, increase invest-April 13. order to imports, increase invest-ment, employment and exports and create a preference for con-suming domestic products rather Tehran newspapers report hundreds of layoffs in recent weeks because of cutbacks by state-run factories prompted by the de-They say prices of many goods jumped by up to 30 per cent after the devaluation, equal to the rise

Credit and Commerce Internathe scale of bribery and kickbacks," it said in a statement at tional (BCCI) amid charges of massive fraud robbed big and the launch Thursday. Its initial focus will be on corsmall account holders around the ruption rackets in developing globe, many of them Third World Tanzania president

raises minimum wage DAR ES SALAAM (R) - Presi- had been laid off under World dent Ali Hassan Mwinyi Bank-backed reforms. that Tanzania's minimum wage of about \$12 a month would be raised in July's budget.

He did not say by how much it would go up, but government sources said it would be a 15 per cent increase on the 5,000 shilling minimum monthly pay packet.

According to guidelines for preparing of the budget for 1993/94, salary levels in the civil service have now fallen to "levels that undermine the efficiency of government services." This would allow the lowest

paid to claw back some of the ground lost to inflation, officially said to be running at 20 per cent annually, economists said.

Addressing a May Day rally, Mr. Mwinyi said he regretted that thousands of government staff

But it has to be done, as there has

been a serious case of over-employment," Mr. Mwinyi said. "We did the same in 1986. But those who were laid off then just came back through the back door," he said, echoing official complaints that sacked civil servants and managed to get back onto bloated government

payrolls. By the end of this year, 10,000 jobs will have been slashed from the civil service. The government will not be hiring any new employees except for teachers and medical staff.

The redudancies are among the most drastic steps taken to launch Tanzania on a free market path after years of ruinous homegrown socialism under ex-president Julius Nyerere.

Tel.: 677420

Tel.: 699238

Tel.: 625155

with their interests at heart. The 1991 BCCl failure, which

development programmes meant bit 73 countries and left an esti-The diversion of foreign aid mated total debt of \$10 billion, into the accounts of businesses exposed lax supervision in offshore banking centres and put and public officials adds human misery among the world's poorest people while cheating taxpayers pressure on institutions like the Bank of England to compensate in industrial countries who fidepositors.

Western aid donors, no longer obliged to worry about Third World allies defecting to the communist camp, have also become contributions to politicians have increasingly critical of the corruption they used to accept as a political surcharge on their deelopment programmes.

"We invite representatives from governments across the globe and from comporations active in international business to join our organisation," said Frank Vogl, vice-chairman of the

group.
"Only through a real international coalition can progress be made on this front," he pointed

Among prominent figures backing the private group are "The 1992 costs, I belie former World Bank head Robert" were even higher," he said.

countries, which skim funds off of residents who saw it as a bank McNamara, former U.S. deputy treasury secretary Peter McPherson, vice presidents Alberto Dahik of Equador and Festus Mogae of Botswana and senior officials from the United Nations, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), General Electric and

Boeing. "I hope the leaders of the Group of Seven will display leadership in the anti-corruption areas, Mr. Vogl said in a statement, referring to Group of Seven members the United States, Japan, Germany, Britain, France, Italy and Canada.

Mr. Vogi stressed the group's field of action would stretch far beyond only Third World or government corruption.

"The accounting profession in the U.S. is on the ropes because of massive lawsuits related to largest accounting of settling and defending soinst suits in 1991 was \$477 million or the per cent of auditing revenues. I believe "The 1992 costs, I believe,

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Proposed Black Sea bank may

ANKARA (R) — A Black Sea cooperation group will need outside financial help for a regional investment bank designed to underpin trade and development projects, an official has said.

The official from the group's Istanbul-based secretariat said Japan, Gulf Arab banks, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the World Bank and the European Community were possible sources of financial help.

"Foreign assistance becomes a necessity when we consider the economic conditions of the participating countries," said the official,

last month that the proposed bank should have a capital of one billion Special Drawing Rights (\$1.4 billion).

The working group will meet in Varna, Bulgaria, on June 9-11 to discuss details such as each country's share in the bank, what Surrency unit it should use and where it should be based.

Istanbul on June 14-17. 'The distribution of shares has not been decided yet. But we have, at least, scenarios for it," the official said.

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behind target. Mr. Adeli said preliminary figures showed Iran's gross domestic product (GDP) rose between serves, including gold, at \$6 billion to \$7 billion in July 1989. The rival is now set at 1,644 per dollar after a three-parity system, including an old official rate of about 67 rivals per dollar, was six and seven per cent in the last Iranian year and predicted a similar growth this year. "The new policy will bring serapped in March — a devalua-tion of up to 96 per cent. The The Man Who **Loved Women**

seek foreign help

a Turk, who asked not to be named. A working group from the 11 member-countries agreed in Athens

Its proposals will be discussed by foreign ministers meeting in

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ni, Amer Al Khafash

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Serbs agree to peace plan; conditions worsen in Gorazde

SARAJEVO (R) — Bosnian still having a lot of difficulty with Serbs bowed to international the Bosnian Serbs." pressure Sunday by accepting a peace plan intended to end the 13-month civil war but U.N. peacekeepers said conditions were worsening in the besieged town of Gorazde.

A Greek government spokesmar said the Bosnian Serbs had sted the plan during a summ: f Balkan leaders in Athens. := plan which has already beer approved by the republic's Croats and Muslims, must now be submitted to the self-styled Bosnian Serb parliament for ratifica-

U.N. peacekeepers said they were concerned about the situation in the east Bosnian town of Gorazde where Serb forces have trapped about 60,000 Muslims.

Barry Frewer, spokesman in Sarajevo for the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) said reports from doctors and ham radio operators in the town spoke of increased fighting.

We've got reports from doctors coming out of the area saying there have been heavy casual-ties," he added. UNPROFOR has not be able to confirm the heavier fighting independently.

U.N. aid convoys have been unable to reach Gorazde. under siege since Bosnia's civil war began, for more than eight weeks although it is getting supplies parachuted by the U.S. Air

Commander Frewer said a 10truck relief convoy currently trying to reach Gorazde was held up at Podromanija, 35 kilometres to the northwest, "because we're

MOSCOW (AP) — About 400 pro-Communists rallied quietly

next to the Russian parliament

Sunday, denouncing President Bons Yeltsin as a "butcher" one

day after a violent clash with

al's office has begun an investiga-

tion into Saturday's street battle

in Gagarin Square, the worst

violence in the Russian capital

since the failed August 1991

coup. A separate investigation is

being conducted by a commission set up by the Communist-domin-

The violence reflects the

ongoine campaign by Mr. Yelt-

in's foes to undermine his victory

in last Sunday's referendum, in

which a majority of voters ex-

pressed confidence in Mr. Yeltsin

and approved of his economic

Interior Ministry officials said

205 police — including 181 riot troops — were injured, with 27

ated parliament.

policies.

The Russian prosecutor-gener-

police at May Day march.

Gorazde, Zepa and Srebrenica are the only three substantial Muslim enclaves left in eastern Bosnia following a Serb drive for sole control of the region which was ethnically mixed when the

Their future was among the issues being discussed in Athens Sunday at talks between international mediators Cyrus Vance and David Owen and leaders of Bosnia's ethnic communities.

The peace plan would give eastern Bosnia, which borders the Serbian Republic, to the Muslims under a U.N.-sponsored proposal to divide the former Yugoslavia republic into 10 semiautonomous ethnic cantons.

Diplomats believe the Serbs military control of the region will eventually be recognised and that Gorazde and Zepa will become U.N. protected areas like Srebre-

Fighting has intensified around Bosnia since the Bosnian Serb parliament last week refused to endorse the peace plan.

The capital Sarajevo was quieter Sunday after intensive shelling Saturday killed eight people. Muslim-controlled Sarajevo Radio reported fighting around the Serb-held river port of Brcko

in northern Bosnia. Muslim forces control a number of villages four kilometres south of the town which is at the narrowest point of the corridor of territory Serbs have taken across north Bosnia to link the Republic of Serbia with captured lands in

Bosnia and Croatia.

About 400 Russian hardliners

continue rally a day after clash

that 70 were hurt.

strators were hospitalised.

There was no overall estimate

of injured demonstrators,

although officials said Saturday

State-run television reported

no deaths in the clash. The leader

of the pro-Communist demon-

stration, Viktor Anpilov, had claimed that one demonstrator

was killed, but he gave no details.

Vladimir Talakneyev, 25, was listed in serious condition Sunday

at Clinical Hospital No. 1, the TV

On Sunday, about 400 nationalists and Communist sup-

porters gathered peacefully next

to the Russian "White House,"

as the parliament building is cal-

led. Some had spent the night on woman."

arrested, Interfax said.

UNPROFOR sent military do more than simply give us a observers to check claims by Sarajevo that six civilians died in Serb shelling and Serb claims that Muslims hit the centre of Brcko with mortar fire during the

The United Nations said the Muslim pocket of Bihac in northwest Bosnia which Serb forces attacked last week was hit by 287 shells Saturday including 19 which exploded in Bihac town. In central Bosnia, where Mus-

lims and their former Croat allies have been fighting over mixed territory. Commander Frewer said a ceasefire was consolidating around Vitez where British U.N. forces are garrisoned.

Serb forces accused Muslims of attacking Serb villages and positions in eastern and northern

The initialling of the Vance and Owen peace plan must be ratified by the Bosnian Serb parliament where hardliners have twice forced through its rejection.

The parliament is due to meet Wednesday to decide whether to back Mr. Karadzic and other Serb leaders clamouring for a yes

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher arrived in London Sunday at the start of a European tour to gather support for tougher action against Serbs, including the possibility of air strikes if they do not sign.

President Bill Clinton has continued U.S. contingency planning despite the Athens conference. Mr. Christopher said before he left Washington that Serbs "must in the Republic of Croatia.

tance, hardliners passed around

petitions urging a special session of the Congress of People's Deputies on the incident. Many peo-

ple milled around in small groups for political discussions.

In an almost picnic-like atmos-

phere on a warm, sunny day, a

table was spread with loaves of

bread, and thirsty demonstrators

dipped tin cups in a communal

pot of water.

But the mood was angry, with posters that said "Yeltsin — the

butcher of Russia" and "the peo-

One man who refused to give

ple bruise on his right eye, and

said he was beaten up by riot

police during Saturday's march. "I'm 56 years old. How can I

be a militant?" he said. "I had

bare hands, and was defending a

ple will win."

At least 20 people were his name sported a red-and-pur-

signature on a peace plan...the clock is ticking."

The signature could be reversed by the parliament but the important thing is that Dr. Karadzic has courageously com-mitted his delegation to this plan," Lord Owen told reporters.
"We have got what we really

wanted. Signatures on the plan," Lord Owen said. He expected the Bosnian Serb parliament to approve the plan and said the full force of all leaders in the Balkans would be working for this outcome on May 5.

Greek Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis, who helped set up the last-ditch peace talks, said: "A new period of peace, cooperation and progress opens ahead of us in the Balkans."

Mr. Mitsotakis played an important role in getting the warring parties together for a final round of talks, overshadowed by threats of Western military intervention.

The peace plan divides Bosnia into 10 autonomous provinces along ethnic lines. Lord Owen said it would require a "substantial peacekeeping force" and that he hoped U.S. troops, among others, would play a role.

The peace envoys will now focus on the task of rebuilding the war-shattered republics of the former state of Yugoslavia, which was torn apart when the former Communist state began disintegrating in June 1991.

Lord Owen said they would also be trying to ensure peace and an end to fighting elsewhere, especially Serb held strongholds



The new mediator for the Yugoslav conflict, Thorvald Statemberg (left), and Lord Owen (2nd from left) welcome Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karad-

zic to the two-day peace summit in Athens. Serb politician Nikola Kolievic looks on (AFP photo)

Tambo buried as ANC soldiers fire gun salute

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) gunmen.

— ANC soldiers fired a 21-gun Mr. Tr salute as former African National Congress (ANC) President Oliver Tambo was buried here Sun-

ANC President Nelson Mandela held his right hand in the ANC's clenched fist salute as the coffin was lowered into the ground to the strains of "The Last Post."

Mourners among the 15,000 who had gathered outside the cemetery in Wattville black township, south of here, fired answering shots as three Umkhonto We Sizwe (MK) cadres fired a 21-gun salute with 12-guage shotguns, despite appeals by ANC Secretary General Cyril Ramaphosa that the military farewell should be restricted to MK soldiers. The MK is the ANC's armed wing.

Two MK members removed the ANC's black, green and gold flag that had been draped over Mr. Tambo's coffin and handed it to his widow Adele.

The immediate burial site was strictly controlled by some 100 MK soldiers, who restricted access to dignitaries and family. The service was peaceful, but ANC massais battled to control thousands of Wattville township residents who wanted to get into the cemetery.

Mr. Tambo, 75, who Saturday after suffering a massive sioner General Daan Huggett stroke, was transported in a white hearse from a funeral service at a soccer stadium outside Soweto black township earlier Sunday.

The ANC bade farewell to Mr. Tambo Sunday with a funeral service held under the shadow of

Mr. Tambo's fellow leaders in the ANC and foreign dignitaries attended the ceremony at the FNB Football Stadium in Soweto, South Africa's largest black township on the Johannesburg outskirts.

Mr. Mandela paid tribute to Mr. Tambo and his legacy with a reference to democracy negotiations that are thrashing out a new consitution for a non-racial South Africa to end 300 years of white supremacy.

"We are watching a new dawn we can see it that we have it in our power to transform South Africa into what you want it to be - free, just, prosperous and at peace within itself and the world," he told mourners. But in contrast with the funeral

of slain Communist Party leader Chris Hani two weeks ago, when the stadium was packed to its 80,000 capacity, the crowd num-bered only a few thousand. . Mr. Tambo's funeral service

followed an attack on a hotel bar in the port of East London Satur-Black gunmen wearing Balaclava helmets to hide their faces

attacked the Highgate Hotel in the port city with AK-47 assault rifles, killing five whites and wounding six other whites and a black barman. Eastern Cape Police Commis-

said police were searching for five people. Police earlier said three blacks carried out the raid.

attacks since November on a golf club and a motel bar in the region. The two attacks killed

50 houses torched as clashes continue in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India (Agencies)

— At least 50 houses were set ablaze in clashes between Muslim militants and Indian Border Security Council (BSF) guards in the Kashmir town of Sopore, officials and reports said here.

Police said the clashes erupted after the militants fired several rockets at a BSF bunker killing one guard and injuring five soldiers late Saturday night in Sopore, 54 kilometres north of here. "One BSF soldier has died in

the rocket attack," said Kashmir's Deputy Police Chief Azhar Nomani, adding that sporadic clashes in Sopore between the guards and the rebels were continuing Sunday. The Press Trust of India (PTI)

news agency said some 50 houses were set ablaze by the rockets fired by the rebels at the BSF bunker in Sopore's busy Hatishah residential district.

Earlier Sunday, other police officials and witnesses said the BSF men went on a rampage burning 15 houses in the tiny apple-growing town.

Details of civilian casualties ised by the arson or the clashes in Sopore were not immediately known, PTI quoted a government spokesman as saying in Srinagar, Kashmir's summer capital and the urban hub of a Muslim separatist drive.

Nomani said he was leaving for Sopore with a contingent of policemen to take stock of the situation. "We will come to know what is happening when we reach there," he added before setting off for the remote town.

Vijay Shankar, inspectorgeneral of the BSF, however, did not confirm the death saying the militant-led attack injured three guards and caused serious damage to a communication installa-tion in the Sopore bunker.

Kashmiri militants generally use shoulder-fired rocket propelled grenades to attack Indian

"Fire trucks could not reach Sopore immediately because of the extensive firing by the militants", the spokesman said but added that the blaze was later brought under control.

The BSF official said paramilitary reinforcements from the Kashmiri town of Baramullah had been rushed to Sopore, a bastion of the Kashmiri militants, to restore normalcy.

The overnight rocket attack

and Sunday's alleged retaliation by the BSF follows the death of six civilians on April 19 in Sopore when Indian border guards opened fire on a Muslim proces-

Three of those killed were Muslim students caught in the firing, and observers said the Saturday night rocket attack on the BSF bunker was to avenge last month's killings.
On Jan. 6, BSF soldiers pep-

pered the town with bullets and torched 200 shops and homes, killing 50 people in retaliation against a militant attack on another paramilitary post.

The January incident prompted an investigation into the role of the BSF in the arson. Meanwhile, most of Kashmir's

police were back at work Sunday, four days after troops broke a strike by storming police head-quarters and disarming the men, enior officers said. They said most policemen re-

ported for duty despite a call from their strike committee to stay out until Monday.

The committee had demanded the arrest of a senior army officer accused of involvement in the death of a policeman in army custody.

The government turned down the demand, officials said.

TOKYO (R) — The Japanese palace is considering kicking the habit of offering eigenettes as gift at banquets when Crown Prime Naruhito gets married in Julie. news reports said Sunday. We are considering excluding cigarettes as royal gifts this time as we prepare other items," Kyodo News Agency quotes a source at the Imperial Household Agency as saying. The agency instead is thinking of giving a small box of confetti and a sake cup to each of about 3,000 districtaries and other guests at bare quets to be held from June 15-12 By palace tradition, the pales gives away "imperial cigarettes"

Tourist held with counterfeit money provided by bank

as souvenirs to local people when

the imperial family tours the

GENEVA (AFP) — A Swiss citizen bought dollars from a bank here and set off for what he hoped would be an enjoyable holiday in Costa Rica. But in-stead, the newspaper Le Nouveau said, he was arrested in San Jose when he tried to change the dollars for local currency. The dollars were counterfeit. The tourist managed to convince the Costa Rican authorities that he had acquired the money legally but they still confiscated his pastport and it was several days before they allowed him to return to Switzerland. Le Nouveau reported that the bank has reimbursed the tourist for the counterfeit money, but has so far not agreed to pay damages for bis wrecked holiday.

Switzerland has 73.000 millionaires

BERN (AFP) — Nearly two per cent of Swiss citizens declared themselves millionaires in 1991, while one third of taxpayers said they had nothing to declare, according to new official figures. The figures, released by the federal government, take into account those living in Switzerland, including their oversess earnings, as well as taxpavets living abroad. On average, Swiss citizens last year had a per capital income of 140,000 Swiss francs (\$98,000), according to the figures, which said there were 3,760,150 taxpayers with a copy, bined income of 530.1 billion Swiss francs. The 1.94 per cent of millionaires - 72,822 people owned nearly half (42 per cent) of the country's personal wealth, according to the figures. Thirty per cent of those liable to tax had no savings, 33 per cent declared between 1,000 and 50,000 Swiss francs, and 11 per cent between 50,000 and 100,000 Swiss francs.

British salesman fined \$14,160 for unpaid tickets

LONDON (R) — A British advertising salesman has been fined £9,000 (\$14,160) for unpaid parking tickets under a new income-linked system of court fines. David Lockett, 37, who lives near Blackpool in northwestern England, received one of Britain's highest motoring penalties for 15 summonses and failing to give details about the ownership of his car. "I was shellshocked. I didn't know anything about the new law and fines, I just find it pathetic. It is almost funny it is that ridiculous," He said. A magistrates' court in Manchester fined Mr. Lockett £600 (\$944) for each offence after he failed to submit a form detailing how much he could afford to

French prosecutor wants to let off Brando's daughter

PAPEETE, French Polynesia

(R) — A French prosecutor has recommended that charges be dropped against the 23-year-old daughter of U.S. film star Marlon Brando over the 1990 killing of her lover, justice sources said They said the prosecutor believed there was insufficient evidence to pursue the case against Chevenne Brando who has been charged with being an accomplice in the killing of Dag Drollet by her half-brother Christian Brando. The sources said it was now up to investigating magistrate Jean-Bernard Taliercio to decide whether to close the case or bring Cheyenne to trial. In 1991 a Los Angeles court jailed Christian Brando for 10 years for shooting Mr. Drollet in Brando's Beverly Hills estate after he heard Cheyenne, then four months pre-gnant, complain of having bees beaten by her lover. A judge in French Polynesia brought charges against Cheyenne on the request of Mr. Drollet's relatives.

Danish referendum campaign COPENHAGEN (AFP) — David confronts Goliath again tic rights to a militarily powerful Movement, the plans for Eurosuper-government in Brussels. This is bloc politics. The this month when Danes vote on whole idea was invented in the the European Community's (EC) five million) was too small- to

Goliath makes a comeback in

Maastricht union treaty for the second time, but Goliath is now ready for the sling and things look bad for David.

Denmark, the EC's third smallest country, voted "no" to the treaty with a tiny 50.7 per cent majority last June, shocking the Community's political establishment and blocking its plans for economic and political union.

But polls now indicate that the "yes" vote could be higher than 55 per cent in a second referendum on May 18, and analysts believe this will allow the EC to weld itself into a more integrated European union before the year-For Drude Dahlerup, a politic-

al scientist and one of the leaders of the grass-roots June Movement that orchestrated the Danish 'no' vote last year, the fun has gone out of the anti-Maastricht "The campaign is hateful now.

So many personal attacks are now being made on the "no" side. The campaign is being America-nised," she told AFP.

The June Movement is opposed to the Maastricht Treaty for fear that it will spawn a United States of Europe where citizens hand over their democracold war. We want to be number one in the world. I think it's a dangerous idea," Ms. Dahlerup

An uneasy coalition of leftists and extreme-right nationalists, the June Movement prefers a stronger all-inclusive United Nations to an elite European union that risks excluding the new democracies of Eastern Europe.

And it fears that high Danish social standards could be sacrificed on the alter of European uniformity, along with the rewards of a long battle in Denmark to give women an equal place on all levels of society.

The movement also feels betrayed because of what it considers a cynical, anti-democratic power play to overcome the Danish "no" last year.

Under Community rules, the treaty needs the consent of all EC. countries. Denmark was one of only three countries that dared submit it to voter approval, rather than just parliamentary

The other two were France, which ratified the treaty with a razor-thin 51 per cent, and Ireland, which mustered a much bigger majority.

If the French vote had gone the

other way, maintains the June

hospitalised with concussions and cuts, according to the Interfax News Agency. It said 12 demon-

So EC leaders engineered special exemptions for Denmark opt-outs from a single currency, greater defence cooperation,

"no" vote in two weeks. Then the Danish establishment swung into action with the message that European union would go ahead with or without Demmark and that another "no" vote would see the Danes frozen

economic cost. now - essentially a single mar-

People feel cheated at being asked to vote again, it maintains, as if their first vote didn't count

clusion. "How can they exclude a country (from the EC) which only follows the rules and has done nothing wrong?" Ms. Dahlerup

It has been a dirty campaign, she says. Some of the June Movement's leaders have been tarred with their past membership of Denmark's Communist Party, and there have been slurs about

The movement's main hope is that the Danes will be sufficiently resentful at all the pressure to vote "no" again. But even Ms. Dahlerup is pessimistic as opinion

next battle in 1996, when EC leaders have scheduled a conference to take the integration pro-

President's killing may intensify Sri Lankan war

COLOMBO (R) - The Sri Lankan government is likely to intensify the war against Tamil separatist rebels after the killing of President Ranasinghe Premadasa by a suicide bomber, military sources said Sunday.

"Now that the political leaders have themselves been targetted they are likely to put more effort to finish the war against (the Tamil rebels)," a senior military officer declared.

diers who were losing their lives, he said.

The government Sunday began moving battle-hardened troops to the south from their northern and eastern camps in case of further violence in the capital.

The soldiers are likely to return to the war zone if the situation remained calm after Mr. Premadasa's state funeral Thursday, the military sources said. Mr. Premadasa was blown up

by a suspected Tamil suicide bomber, said by the military to be as young as 14, at a May Day procession Saturday. The separatist rebels, who have

fought a decade-long struggle for their own homeland, have denied nvolvement. The military wants to preven

any recurrence of the July 1983 rioits against minority Tamils sparked off by the funeral of 13 Sinhalese soldiers killed in a rebel ambush. Tens of thousands of people,

some weeping openly and beating their chests, mourned the assas-sination of President Premadasa by visiting his home and walknig past his body as it lay in state Sunday. His widow, Hema, and his 23-

year-old daughter, Dulanjalee, who had just returned from London, broke into tears, threw their arms around each other and buried their faces in a flag on the As they were helped away, the

25,000 people waiting in lines outside the building continued to walk past the coffin guarded by four soldiers holding golden swords and bowing their heads. Some of the mourners in this

predominantly Buddhist country worshipped the coffin in a tradi tional way by falling to their knees, folding their hands in prayer and dropping their heads to the floor.

In a nearby government build-ing, cabinet ministers held their second emergency meeting since the assassination of Mr. Premadasa. The assassination, which occur-

red eight days after a top opposition leader was guined down by a lone assailant in the capital, has left this Indian Ocean island nation in a deep crisis. It could intensify a guerrilla

war by ethnic Tamils in northern

and eastern Sri Lanka and lead to

a violent struggle for power between the governing party and the nation's many opposition Lalith Athulathmudali, leader of the opposition Democratic United National Front, was

gunned down on April 23 while

addressing a rally in Colombo.

Mr. Huggett said it resembled

Chinese minister starts European tour

Abkhazians down Georgian iet

Sukhoi-25 fighter aircraft over a village west of the Abkhazi capital Sukhumi, the ITAR-TASS News Agency said. Citing Abkhazi authorities, the agency said the plane was shot down Saturday by artillery over the village of Eshera, and said the pilot, who ejected before the plane crashed, had been taken prisoner. A number of Georgian aircraft bombarded Abkhazi positions in the region Friday evening, injuring an unspecified number of civilians, the Abkhazi Defence Ministry said, according to ITAR-TASS. Clashes between Georgian and Abkhazi forces were continuing on both sides of the Gumista River, which has over the last few months become the frontline of fighting between the two sides in the region, according to Abkhazi officials.

8 die after boat capsizes near Singapore

SINGAPORE (AP) - Eight Indonesians have been found dead and rescuers were searching for 10 others missing after a sampan capsized near Singapore, a police spokesman said Sunday. The boat, carrying 35 Indonesians, capsized Friday night and a passing coast guard patrol boat rescued 17 from the sea more than eight hours later, said the spokesman, speaking on condition of anonymity in keeping with normal practice. Marine Police boats and helicopters were searching for the missing Indonesians, he added. The boat was sailing from Indonesia's Bintan Island, a few miles south of Singapore, to Johore, in Malaysia, a few miles north of Singapore, when it capsized eight kilometres east of Singapore's Bedok Jetty, the spokesman said. Some of the survivors told local reporters the small vessel overturned when it was caught between the waves of two passing supertankers, but the spokesman said officials still were investigating why the boat capsized.

Chinese ship sinks after collision

a Cyprus chemical tanker Sunday, and three Chinese crew members were missing, Japan's coast guard reported. The 17,670-tonne tanker Silver Horn rescued the other 107 Chinese from the 2,894-tonne Xiang Yang Hong 16 after the collision about 250 kilometres off the coast of Zhejiang province in eastern China, said Shigeaki Kuromizu of the Maritime Safety Agency. The Silver Horn suffered damage to its bow, but its 32 crew members were unhart, Mr. Kuromizu added, their nationalities were not immediately known. He said the Silver Horn was not in danger of sinking and its cargo was not affected, but the ship reported that the damage forced it to break off the search for the missing Chinese after about six hours.

The largest private-owned investment bank in Iraq

Irag's Middle East Investment Bank, which has a capital of 400 million dinars, has lately offered shares to members of

the public. The bank aims, among other things, to invest national savings in industry, agriculture, housing, services, tourism and development projects, in addition to conducting the normal banking operations.

The Iraqi Middle East Investment Bank hopes to open branches outside Iraq after obtaining permission from the financial authorities. Shares have been offered for sale since April 24, 1993 and the offer will last for one month.

pean integration would be dead. But little Denmark (population

European citizenship and police cooperation — if it reverses its

out of the EC at tremendous

For the June Movement, this was blackmail and betrayal. One "no" vote should have been enough, as it would have been in France, to kill the Maastricht treaty and keep the EC as it is

because it did not suit the EC And if they vote "no" again, they are told they will be punished through economic ex-

asks indignantly. campaign financing.

polls show a healthy "yes" trend.

If they vote "yes" she plans to
continue campaigning against the
Maastricht Treaty ahead of the

a new massacre of whites by black five whites.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

PEKING (AFP) - Chinese Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Qian Qichen left Peking Sunday for a 10-day tour of the Netherlands, Sweden, Italy and Germany, the Xinhua News Agency reported. Mr. Qian's visit, which follows a recent trip to Brussels by Foreign Trade Minister Wu Yi, will focus on economic ties. China, facing criticism over its massive \$12 billion trade surplus with the European Community, has recently been touting its desire for closer economic links with Western Europe. Germany, Italy and the Netherlands are, respectively, China's first, second- and fifth-largest Western European trade partners. Total trade between China and these three countries totalled \$11.7 billion last year, according to Chinese government.

MOSCOW (AFP) — Abkhazi forces shot down a Georgian

TOKYO (AP) - A Chinese survey ship sank after colliding with

Tokyo palace may

kick the habit of

cigarette gifts